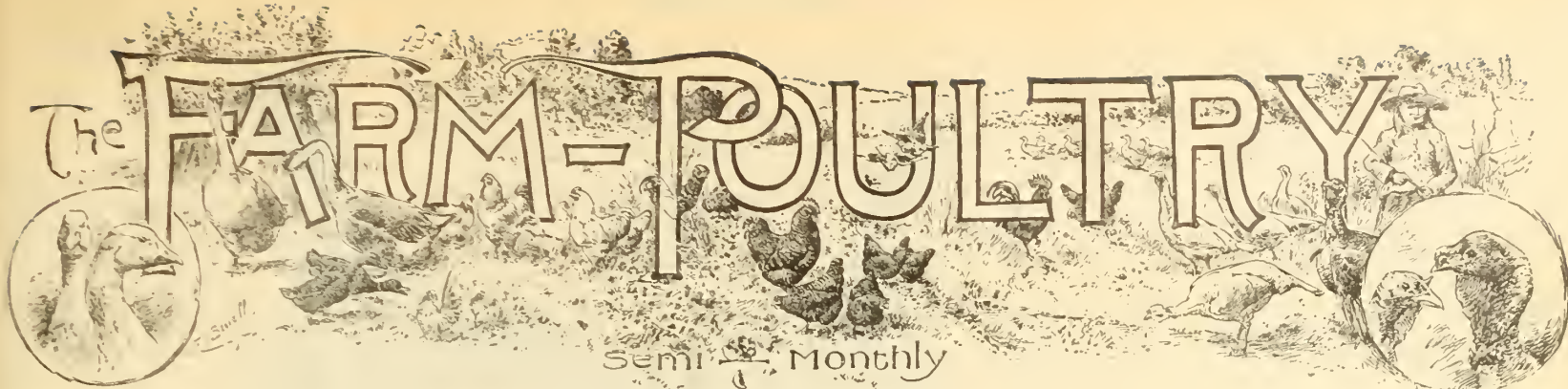


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No. 15.

The Royal Agricultural Show, Manchester, England.

Editorial Correspondence.

In commenting upon the opening of the fifty-eighth annual exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society, at Manchester, June 22d—29th, the *Guardian* for June 23d, said:

"The Royal show is the great outward and visible sign of the existence of the Royal Agricultural Society. The society is an autocratic organization, governed by seventy-two gentlemen, twelve of whom are trustees and twelve vice-presidents, who form the council; but of this large number no more than eleven can by any stretch of the imagination be called farmers. But there are on the council peers and squires, merchants and farmers, who possess every man's confidence, and perhaps this fact alone is sufficient to enable the society to maintain its great prestige and position."

As the Duke of York, the second heir to the throne, was the retiring president of the society, and as the Queen and Prince of Wales figure as exhibitors, the show is given under royal patronage, and may fairly be designated "Royal," even if its vastness and comprehensiveness do not fully entitle it to the name. That it was great, truly and wonderfully "great," an hour's walk through the grounds, even a glance through the nearly 400-page catalogue, would certify, hence we may admit that the *Guardian* was right in so describing it.

Figures do not always convey impressions, but the figures of the entries in some of the classes were:

Horses	981
Cattle	821
Sheep	649
Goats	52
Pigs	185
Poultry	867

and of the various kinds of implements there were 7,340 entries. The sheds and tents in which to house such an array of exhibits could fittingly be compared to a town, hence it was no surprise to find the grounds laid out in streets, and the sections duly numbered.

One of the first things that attracted my notice was the orderliness, tidiness and quietness of the grounds, even with twenty-five thousand people there. This was largely due to the absence of "fakirs," who are rigidly excluded from fairs here in England, and that exclusion of fakirs, side shows, etc., substantially aids in promoting intelligent interest in the show itself. If our American show managers could come to realize that such an array of side shows, for example, as were grouped just inside the entrance to the grounds at the New England fair at Portland last summer, a feeble imitation of the orgies of the "Midway" at Chicago, are not only a blot upon the name of agricultural fair and a stench in the nostrils of self-respecting men and women, but are destructive of the very objects for which agricultural fairs are held, and are antagonistic to the best good of the community at large, we would gain much. There not being any such distracting side shows and noisy fakirs, the attention of all the visitors was given to the attractions of the show.

Another very pleasing feature at the Royal was the entire absence of annoying litter about the grounds. There were no advertising broadsides given out right and left, only to be thrown down after turning the next corner; there were no agricultural or other papers distributing sample copies by the hundred, to be cast to the four winds within the half hour and so drifting about, frightening mettlesome horses and annoying everyone

endowed with the instinct of tidiness. The leading papers had stands there, somewhat after the style of F.-P. at the Boston show, and anyone going to the stand (say) of the *Live Stock Journal*, could have a copy of that paper by paying for it—and having paid for it, the buyer wasn't likely to cast it aside within a few minutes.

Another feature of the American fair which is conspicuously absent here is the race track, and the distraction of horse racing is unknown. There were judging rings, to be sure, where the animals were put through their paces to show off their action and style; but of racing for stakes there was none whatever, and the great success of the Royal in attracting hundreds of thousands of paying visitors shows clearly that the excrement (and in many ways objectionable) horse race is not so necessary as they are wont to argue. In fact, the Royal Agricultural Society's show was in the interest of agriculture pure and simple, and as it is presumably the greatest show of the world of its kind, it is a good model for show committees to copy.

The poultry department of the Royal is not so great in numbers as some might perhaps expect it to be; but allowance should be made for the fact of its being almost wholly utilitarian, that is, the "fancy" element is largely absent, and the birds are considered solely upon their economic merits. Eliminating pigeons, bantams and other fancy features from the average poultry show, and how many would count up nine hundred birds?

The *Live Stock Journal* says:

"The poultry section of the show this year is a very good one, and in the majority of the classes at any rate better support is given than at some previous shows. This is especially true in what may be termed the economic varieties, and taking the show as a whole it is one of the best yet held in connection with the Royal Agricultural Society,"—and the comments of the same paper upon the different breeds were as follows:

"As usual the Dorking classes led the way, and made an exceedingly good section, numbering 103 birds, one of the best we remember to have seen in connection with the Royal shows. This was true both in old birds, which were wonderfully well preserved for the time of year, and in the young birds, the latter being as a rule, well grown.

"Silver Gray Dorkings were a good lot, and although of course they have not the size of their darker brethren, yet for quality, for color of legs, and fineness of bone this variety is undoubtedly the best. Size, of course, in table poultry goes for a great deal; but, at the same time, those who maintain that the Silver Gray Dorking is to be preferred for crossing purposes have reason on their side.

"Old English Games were a very large class, 74 in all, and the best show of this breed we remember to have seen at the Royal. The striking point is how much more prominent the Spangled Game seems to be now than formerly, the proportion as compared with the Black Red being greater than we have seen here before.

"Indian Game made hardly so good a show as we have seen at the Royal before, though some were all that could be desired.

"For some reason the French classes at this show never make a good display; but this year the number in the old bird classes is an improvement. The majority of the birds are Houdans, as might be expected.

"Brahmas and Cochins made fairly good classes; in fact, from the ornamental point of view, very good classes for the time of year. We can to some extent understand the retaining of these sections, although so far as the Cochins are concerned it is of small economic value; but precedent is a very great factor, even in poultry matters.

"The Langshan classes are not as numerous as they have been seen previously at this show. We regret to see that the long, leggy, though

rich colored type is becoming now almost universal. This is a great mistake. Much better were the older birds, shorter in leg and more compact in body. Here we see a direction in which fanciers are undoubtedly making a great mistake, and in process of time, if continued, the Langshan will be a ruined breed. Of course, if we look at the fowls from this standard they are good; but to any one who has studied the breed it is regrettable.

"The Wyandotte classes were hardly so large as they have been before at the Royal show, as it will be remembered that on one or two previous occasions they were amongst the most prominent in the show.

"Plymouth Rocks made a very nice show as a whole, though there were not the numbers that we have been accustomed to see. The other colors than Barred add an interest to this class, though they were only to be seen in the young birds, all the older specimens being Barred.

"Minorcas. This section is one of very good all round quality, and we are glad to see that both old and young birds are shown in excellent condition. Moreover, the fault which we have often pointed out in the *L. S. J.*, namely white on face, is less apparent than we remember to have seen before, only one specimen showing weakness in that direction.

"Leghorns were a better display than we have seen at the Royal for some time, and we are glad that this is so, for breeders have not as a rule supported the show as they should have done.

"Orpingtons made a fairly good display of fifty-three entries, and it would not appear from this that the Buffs are advancing in popular favor, as the representations were not numerous here nor of good quality.

"Andalusians made a moderate show, but do not call for special mention.

"Hamburgs were decidedly poor, only seven entries in the two classes.

"The Any Other Variety section was hardly so interesting as usual; in fact, it was a failure in young birds, the adults being pretty well represented.

"We hardly thought the ducks as good as usual. Aylesburys, for some reason, never seem to come out at all satisfactorily, and there were only twenty-one entries in the four classes, though we are bound to say that the quality was excellent. Rouens were hardly up to the average of previous shows, in numbers at any rate, and here we see the results of one exhibitor carrying off all the prizes, though he has decidedly the best birds, and it cannot be helped. Pekins were decidedly inferior, the drakes being the better. It would almost appear as if there was an ebb tide with this breed. Cayugas were nice in drakes, and moderate in ducks. In young drakes other than Aylesburys, Rouens took nearly all the prizes, and deservedly so.

"The geese were not large classes, and, unfortunately, were very rough in plumage. Of course there were no young birds in this section, and that would explain something. Toulouse geese did not look well but the quality was satisfactory, and although the competition was somewhat limited, we think the judge rightly did not withhold any of the prizes.

"The turkeys made about the best class we remember to have seen in connection with the Royal shows. There were no less than twenty-seven exhibits in the two classes, namely, seventeen cocks and ten hens. Of course, practically all were American Bronze."

The above comments were, in each class, followed by notes upon the individual winners, which is the custom among the papers here; they would not be interesting to F.-P. readers, hence we pass them.

The entry fee at the Royal is five shillings (\$1.25) per bird for non-members of the society, one-half that for members. The cash prizes were: 1st, 30 shillings (\$7.50); 2d, 15 shillings (\$3.75); 3d, 10 shillings (\$2.50); and "Highly Commended Reserve;" then H. C. and C. cards to as many birds as the judges deemed worthy of the honor. In the different classes there were 47 Colored Dorkings, 47 Silver Gray Dorkings, 10 White Dorkings, 75 Old English Games, 40 Indian Games, 24 French, 57 Brahmas and Cochins (classed together), 45 Langshans, 50 Silver Wyandottes, 30 Wyandottes, Gold Laced and White,

61 Plymouth Rocks (almost all Barred), 37 Minorcas (Black and White), 17 White Leghorns, 40 any other color Leghorns, 53 Orpingtons, 17 Andalusians, 7 Hamburgs, 23 Any Other Recognized Breed, 84 ducks, 15 geese, and 27 turkeys.

Generally speaking, the English birds lack fineness of bone and compactness of body, as compared with our American birds, which is another way of saying that English birds are coarser, more rangy. This, from the economic standpoint, is unfortunate, as coarseness of body carries with it coarseness of flesh, and, in the larger varieties certainly, sacrifices egg producing qualities as well. The latter, it should be remembered, receives very little attention here, at least so far as I have been able to discover; the term, "economic qualities," meaning table poultry qualities, always. This opinion I may be obliged to revise later on; but I have not yet found any one who believed in the combination of table and egg producing qualities. Directly one speaks of the all-purpose fowl, he will hear: "Yes, but to get the better egg producing qualities you sacrifice something in table quality," indicating plainly that such a thing is not to be thought of.

In talking of the superior merits of White Wyandottes with the editor of a poultry paper whom we met at Manchester, he conceded that they had great merit, but were not quite the equal of the Dorkings for the table, nor the Leghorns for layers. "True," I replied, "but if we can get a happy combination of the two qualities in one breed—get a layer but a little inferior to the Leghorn, and a table bird but a little (a very little) inferior to the Dorking, will it not be a very desirable combination?" He thought it would, but was somewhat doubtful of getting the combination without sacrificing too much of the table qualities. I told him we had flocks of White Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks in America which had made a record of one hundred and eighty-six eggs each in their first year, Mr. Norton's, namely, and that I believed we could by careful selection and breeding reach two hundred eggs apiece in a year. "Wonderful, wonderful," he exclaimed. "Why that will quite equal the Leghorns as layers!" It is quite certain, however, that very little if any attention has been paid here to the combining of the two qualities in one breed.

The Barred Plymouth Rock is a leading variety here, but its popularity is largely due to the fact that it is a good table fowl, and I do not hear of its being esteemed as a layer.

In the table poultry class at this show the prizes in pure cockerels were given, first to a pair of "good colored Dorkings excellently fatted; second, the Manor Farm, for a surprising pair of Plymouth Rocks, wonderfully white." I was present while that class was being judged, and had told Mr. B. (whom I was assisting in the weighing) that "if those Plymouth Rocks didn't get first they were certainly a close second," and the judge, Mr. Edward Brown, said to me, "How 'cocky' you would feel if I decide to give first to that pair of Plymouth Rocks!" indicating that they were very, very near the first prize mark. They certainly were a wonderfully fine pair of birds, although apparently a little overfatted.

The table poultry class at Manchester comprised one hundred birds, fifty couples, the prizes being the same as in the other department. Class 1 was pure bred cockerels, nine pair; class 2, pure bred pullets, five pair; class 3, cockerels of Indian Game-Dorking, or Dork-

ing-Indian Game cross, seven pair; class 4, pullets do. seven pair; class 5, cockerels of a first cross other than above, three pair; class 6, pullets do. two pair; class 7, ducklings of 1897, pure bred, ten pair; class 8, ducklings of 1897, of a first cross from any pure breeds, seven pair. These birds were all sent to the show alive, and exhibited in the poultry tent in same coops, (Spratt's), as the regular exhibits, excepting that the table poultry birds were entered in pairs and exhibited in pairs, both when alive and dead—the prizes being offered for pairs.

About four o'clock on the afternoon of Wednesday, (the first day), the birds were taken to the demonstration tent, (adjoining the show tent), killed and dressed. The killing was by a sharp blow of the head around the corner of a post, the intention being that the head shall go past the corner, the jerk dislocating the neck. This causes the blood to collect in the head and neck, and avoids the rather ghastly appearance of the cut throat which we saw in Brussels. Instantly the bird is stunned by the dislocation of the neck and the head coming in violent contact with the post, picking commences, and the bird is plucked in a couple of minutes. If there were a good many pin feathers they were left till later, there being a good many birds to pick during the remaining hours of daylight, as the judging had to be done the next morning. Each bird was weighed before being killed, and weighed again the next morning as soon as judged, the loss in dressing being noted. I volunteered to be clerk to the judge's assistant, and recorded the weights of the dead birds as he called them off, and was surprised at the variation in loss, which ranged from six ounces to over a pound each; but cannot here go into the details of that question. It was surprising, too, what a "shrinkage" in attractiveness there was between the birds alive and dead—more than one pair which had looked very attractive when alive shrunk to very ordinary looking poultry when dressed.

As we said above, the first prize for pair of pure bred cockerels went to Dorkings, and the second to Plymouth Rocks. Third was to Indian Games, which were wonderfully fine birds, but too yellow for the English standard, which prefers white fleshed fowls. First for pullets also went to Dorkings; second Dorkings; third Langshans. In the class for Indian Game-Dorking cross cockerels, Manor Farm took first, with a wonderfully fine pair of birds—not the largest, but of superb quality. That is manifestly a very superior cross for fine table poultry, and it is worthy of note that if the male bird of that cross is Indian Game the white flesh desired in the English market is preserved; and if the Dorking male be used the yellow fleshed birds which we prefer in America are obtained; in other words the color of skin of the offspring comes from the dam.

It was unfortunate that the table poultry had to be exhibited in glass sided refrigerators; but it seemed the less of two evils. Last year the birds turned bad after two or three days, and most of them had to be removed and destroyed. It was a good deal grumbled at that the birds were put away behind glass—but that was better than to have them all turn green before the show was half over.

We have left ourselves no space in which to speak of incubators, brooders, etc.;—and, indeed, they were far off from the poultry tent, and were quite properly included in farm appliances. We will write of poultry appliances at another time.

The judging of the poultry was all done in a few hours, and the public was not admitted to the tent until after the judging was completed. Indeed, the press representatives were excluded until the judging was nearly over, and then were only admitted after being rigidly questioned as to whether they had any birds on exhibition there, or were personally interested in the birds exhibited. That long wait was trying to the representatives of weekly papers which went to press Thursday; but *Poultry* and the *Feathered World* got their copy in on time, and the paper of the week was on sale there on the show grounds on Friday, with the report in full. The *Live Stock Journal* had over four columns of poultry report, the third of a column devoted to table poultry being sent up by wire Thursday, and the paper was for sale there on Saturday morning, possibly Friday—but that I

don't know. The *Live Stock Journal* has over fourteen pages altogether, of Royal show report, which must have been written out from notes made there at the show, sent up to London, put in type and printed within forty-eight hours. That is sharp work. The daily papers gave splendid reports of the show, the *Manchester Guardian*, (one of the best papers published in England, or in the world for that matter), being particularly praiseworthy for intelligible, discriminating comments. We cannot well do better in closing, than clip the following paragraph from the *Guardian* of Saturday:

"Taking a walk through the poultry tent, I find a very large and representative collection of old and young poultry, the latter generally being in advanced plumage for this still early season. Poultry shows have now been established in England over a third of a century, and they are, as a rule, exhibitions of fancy fowls bred for no economical purpose, but just for that form of amusement which is described as a hobby. No attempt was made until a few years ago to make these shows utilitarian in character. The Royal Agricultural Society has done something in that direction, but more is needed, not merely because of the direct, but of the indirect harm which follows upon so notable an example. There are several classes which can by no means be distinguished as farm poultry, or indeed as poultry which it is desirable to cultivate for economical or business purposes. They include the feather legged Brahmas and Cochins, varieties which have cost ignorant breeders and others hundreds and thousands of pounds in the past twenty-five years, and which have done great harm to the poultry of the country. The Hamburgs, charming in feather and form, but delicate and useless on the table, and the variety classes which are a refuge for the wretchedly ornamented specimens which are otherwise destitute of recognition. The table poultry which were excellently prepared by Messrs. Muirhead and Sons, of Victoria street, were a capital lot, well shown, though somewhat crowded in refrigerator cases."

II.

Now Then! Mr. Jacobs!

That Little Compton Yarn.

Editor *American Stock-Keeper*:

As this is the season of pyrotechnical displays and explosion, Mr. P. H. Jacobs in the *Poultry-Keeper*, no doubt wishes to keep up with the times, and under the heading of "That Little Compton Yarn," stated that he exposed it twelve years ago, etc., etc. To the exposure and consequent sound of, the explosion is like most fire-works, some sound and smoke, but as a rule that ends it. In this case, however, Mr. Jacobs' fire-works does not end the "Little Compton Yarn." Mr. Isaac Wilbour of Little Compton, R. I., still owns the largest poultry farm in the world, and ships from 130,000 to 150,000 dozen eggs in a year, and has over one hundred houses, one hundred and fifty feet apart, and scattered over sloping fields; he feeds from a wagon driven from house to house, contrary and notwithstanding Mr. Jacobs' exposure. The place will stand any exposure Mr. Jacobs can make, as it exists exactly as represented, and can be seen by any one that comes to the place. Mr. Jacobs is greatly excited over the fact that he supposes that Mr. Wilbour's hens lay all the eggs he ships. I can ease his mind on that score.

Mr. Wilbour's hens no doubt lay well; but he nor any other writer, so far as I have seen, never has claimed any extraordinary egg output. He buys largely from the surrounding farmers, their eggs, and ships with his own. The last I knew he had several wagons running around the country picking up eggs. Any doubting Thomas who questions the existence of a farm where from two thousand to four thousand head of stock can be seen at nearly any season of the year, can easily be convinced by a visit to the place. I will make this offer: If Mr. Jacobs will visit this place, or send some representative whom he can or will trust, I will pay his expenses, and give him \$50 for his trouble if he does not find the farm of Isaac Wilbour of Little Compton, R. I., to be exactly as represented, as sales of stock, number of fowls kept, number of houses, etc., if he; or his part, in case the matter is not as represented, will pay me a like sum equivalent to his traveling expenses and \$50 besides. I know of no way I can make \$50 any easier. WM. M. HUGHES.

It is not luck, but pluck and persistent, applied concentration to all the minor details in the care of poultry that brings success.—*Exchange.*

Saving Poultry Manure.

Mr. Editor:—I have read with interest the article in your issue of June 15th on the saving of poultry manure. I am a grower of pineapples, in which industry fertilizer is one of our largest expenses—and being also a breeder of thoroughbred poultry, I save all the droppings from the chicken houses to use on the plantations.

Your correspondent in the aforesaid article asks how the manure can be kept in a dry state, or how it can be kept so that it will not become a sticky mass—and the authority you quote in answer, taken from the *Farmers' Slowgo and Thrifty Papers*, says: "Mix the manure with an equal part of sifted dirt, and keep it moist by dampening it with soap suds."

The same article further says, "I once heard an agricultural chemist say he would not take all the droppings in the United States, if kept dry, as they would not be worth the hauling. Droppings are very valuable—that is, if you retain the value, and do not allow them to become silicates; or, to better express it, glass." In "Wright's Practical Poultry Keeper," after speaking of the value of poultry manure, he says: "It should be put in any convenient receptacle where it can be kept dry, and should be mixed well with dry earth, soot, or fine dry ashes."

Later, after giving the analysis of the manure, made by the late Dr. Voelkner, he says: "As regards its application, Dr. Voelkner recommends that a mixture should be kept of two parts burnt gypsum and one part mineral superphosphate, and that one part of this should be mixed with three parts of fresh chicken manure, kept under cover, and turned once or twice, and finally passed through a sieve; this treatment would absorb the surplus moisture and reduce the whole to a fairly dry and friable condition, in which it should be used at the rate of eight to ten hundred weight per acre."

I wrote for burnt gypsum, but the fertilizer house I sent to replied that they had never heard of it, but that they thought land plaster would take its place, and that "acid phosphate" would take the place of mineral superphosphate. I don't know if they were right, but anyway, that is what I have been using.

I make a mixture of two parts land plaster, one part acid phosphate. They are both cheap articles, and I think can be got at any fertilizer house. For every three pails of chicken droppings I put one pail of this mixture.

I keep a large box near the chicken houses, with a loose cover made of boards with a roofing paper tacked over them. Into this box I throw the droppings and mixture, turning them over once or twice with a shovel. When I have enough I fill an empty flour barrel, tie a piece of roofing paper over it, and leave it. On turning out the contents of these barrels there are no lumps or silicates; it is all in a crumbly condition, and easy to put on the field. The moist way may be better; I have never tried it; but I don't see how it could be put on a pineapple field, where the plants are so close together that a man can hardly work his way through. In a potato or corn field, no doubt it could be done.

The dry manure, made as I have described, has certainly given good results. The fruit has been larger on the beds where it has been used than on those receiving the ordinary fertilizers. I shall certainly try the moist way if I find that I can manage to spread it. I only write this to point out that different opinions exist as to how to save the manure. Which is the best way, can only be found out by trying both. Anyway, it must be mixed with something. It seems to me that if the moist system were practised it should be kept only just moist.

This is not a profitable poultry country, so far as my experience goes. Grain cannot be raised in the white sandy soil we have here, so all has to be bought, and freights are enormous. At the end of a year the eggs sold at from twenty-five to forty cents per dozen, only just pay for the feed.

The chicks raised are profit; but the market is limited, and poultry being so plentiful in the neighboring southern states, it does not pay to ship them. I breed pure Black Minorcas. Have imported birds of the Northup and other well known strains, but can sell none. Apparently the population have not yet got to appreciate thoroughbred stock—notwithstanding which I consider that the manure alone is of so much value that I keep on increasing my flock.

T. NEWTON BANNER.

Hobe Sound, Dade Co., Fla.

To Secure the Best Price for Turkeys.

Full Management Is What Counts.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

Success in securing a large number of little turkeys depends upon the winter and spring management. It is however, one thing to raise a large flock, and another to put it in the best shape for market. Many old and successful growers are not well up on this end of it. If their methods were improved and more care taken in fattening, dressing and sorting, as well as in packing them as the trade demands, much better prices would be received. Beginners who have succeeded fairly well in raising a flock are often all at sea when it comes to preparing them for market.

Rhode Island turkeys are famous for their quality. Some of our readers may remember the appearance of those turkeys exhibited in the dressed poultry department of the Boston show. In the best markets in New York city, Providence, Newport and Boston they lead those from other sections. In the same markets they often bring ten or twelve cents more than those from all other states except Connecticut. About New Year's a leading New York paper quoted R. I. turkeys at twenty-eight cents, and everything else in the turkey line at less than seventeen cents. Many growers are interested to know the reason.

It is not their fame in the past, or because they are scarce, that they sell for the most; it is on account of their superior quality. Much of this high quality is due to the plump compact breeding stock used, and to the way it is managed; also to the care taken in growing and fattening the young turkeys. The pains taken in dressing and preparing them for shipment, however, probably does more than all else to give them their high standing.

Of course you can not dress a thin, flat bodied, long legged bird so it will sell with the best; but the plumpest, best shaped and most attractive bird in every way, previous to killing, may be so dressed that it must be classed with that which is inferior.

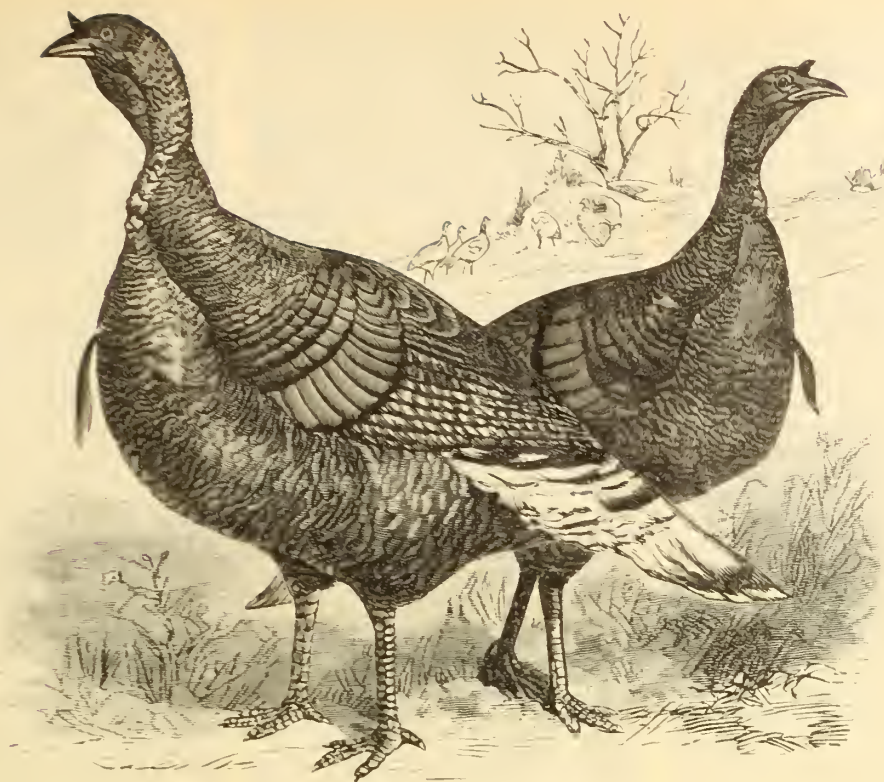
Again, the handsomest young turkeys that are perfectly dressed if packed along with ill dressed ones, or with tough old toms and hens, must be classed with the latter, and go for less than they are worth. Too many send nothing but "fair to poor" stock to market. In many cases it is simply because they do not know how to prepare it so it will bring all that can be got for it.

Successful R. I. growers as a rule feed their turkeys from start to finish on northern white flint corn, which they grow themselves. They take great pains to use nothing but well seasoned old corn, because they have found that new corn causes bowel trouble, which is more to be feared in a turkey than any other fowl, and is liable to be fatal. Diarrhoea seems to be more prevalent among turkeys than any other disease, and a bird that gets sick is very apt to die. Foraging in a field of green oats may give them diarrhoea and cause much loss.

Turkeys not only like northern flint corn best and fatten best on it, but it makes their flesh more tender, juicy and delicious. That given the little ones is coarsely ground and mixed with sweet or sour milk, or made into bread that is moistened with milk. This is gradually mixed with cracked corn, which, when they are about eight weeks old, is fed clear or mixed with sour milk. In the fall whole corn is given.

Turkeys which can be given full liberty from the first on a dry pasture lot, and after a few weeks allowed to roam and roost wherever they choose thrive the best if they escape accident or enemies. Two turkey hen mothers and their broods will then generally join forces apparently for mutual protection from hawks and other enemies. Where they cannot be given full liberty they should be given fresh grass pasturage daily, and milk curd, corn gluten and wheat, as well as corn, to take the place of insects. Great pains should be taken that they are not overfed, and that they are given as much liberty for exercise as is possible. The brood may be prevented from leaving a certain field by shingling the mother turkey, so she cannot fly over the wall or fence. This, however, places her at the mercy of dogs.

After June 1st those at full liberty are usually fed but twice daily. They are hunted



BRONZE TURKEYS.

up and fed in the fields, that they may stay away from the farmyard and outbuildings. Many give the turkeys no food from August 1st until cool weather; they get their own living until they come up from the fields in September or October. We know of cases where those not fed in either August, September or October, but fed well in November, have been larger and plumper at Thanksgiving time than lots fed the season through. The principle seems all right. Doubtless those to be marketed in August and September, if fed corn right along will be plumper and mature earlier, while those allowed to get their own living during the three months will exercise more and secure more nitrogenous or growing food, and grow larger frames. Much depends, however, upon the range, the quantity of insects, and the number of turkeys that run on it. Some fields will support more turkeys than others. The number of turkeys may be so large as to almost exterminate in two or three seasons the insects upon which they feed.

Turkeys that have been fattened soon grow thin if not killed when "lit," and do not fatten readily for some time. The growers must use some judgment as to whether he should feed them grain all through the summer and fall months.

Upon the approach of cold weather they come to the house to be fed, and thereafter roam but little. The males and females soon separate, and go in flocks by themselves. To fatten them for Thanksgiving they are fed in November all the whole corn they will eat three times per day. It is not necessary to coop them. A cooped turkey generally gets sick. The full feeding causes them to rest and sun themselves. Dough is not much used for fattening in Rhode Island. One grower who gives it every morning, and whole corn at night, mixes condition powder with the dough, and finds the latter causes them to eat more and gain faster. Many times whole flocks have been lost just before Thanksgiving. Turkeys are very sensitive; sickness spreads rapidly among them, and sick birds should be quickly removed from the others. Too heavy feeding, or commencing it too suddenly, or continuing it too long a period, is probably the reason of such loss. Birds fed no grain for several months, if they were fed very gradually, would probably be less liable to this trouble than those fed well through the season. The black head disease, in turkeys not badly affected, would be aggravated by this heavy feeding. Some raisers give a little new corn mixed with the old at this time, but most consider it safer to feed clear old corn. It is not best to heavily feed turkeys that are

to be held for a later market or those to be kept over for breeding, for the reasons given. It is an injury to them. They should merely be kept in good condition.

Here the short legged plump birds mature the earliest, and are ready for Thanksgiving, while the larger more framy individuals are usually killed for Christmas or New Years. Large sizes are usually most in demand at Thanksgiving, rather more than at Christmas, and bring the most money. At other times plump hen turkeys under twelve pounds in weight sell the best.

If turkeys are not frightened, and treated very gently, they are more readily fattened and give less trouble when they are to be caught for slaughter. They are usually fed just inside of a shed or barn door for some time previous, and then secured by suddenly closing the doors, or by entrapping them in a wire netting enclosure. They may, however, take fright, and fly about and against the building or netting, and badly bruise themselves. Sometimes they pile up on each other in the corners, and some are smothered before they are rescued. To avoid this Horace Miner, of Connecticut, has a low pen or passage way in the back of his catching shed, and the turkeys become accustomed to pass through. When they are to be caught the exit is closed without their knowing it. As they depend upon this means of escape they are easily shut in. As there is no chance in this low narrow pen for them to fly about they are easily caught by the leg without injuring them. If any escape they will usually persistently shut this shed and communicate their fears to the remainder of the flock. That the whole flock may not be frightened the turkeys not to be caught should be driven to a distance when the others are to be trapped.

If at this time some of your turkeys have joined your neighbor's flock, or the owner of an adjoining farm claims some of his are with your flock, you will be very glad that all of yours were marked for identification soon after they were hatched. If they were not, and your birds are alike in size and color, you will doubtless before you adjust matters decide to surely mark them all next spring, or get a gobbler of a different breed this fall—(two would be better, for one may die at the most important time)—to give your flock a different color next season. You may decide, however, to fence your turkey range with a five barred woven wire fence.

Before the turkeys are killed they should be deprived of food and water for twelve hours, not longer, that their crops may be empty. In dressing they are usually hung up by the legs, a separate cord and noose being

provided for each leg. They are stabbed inside the month to sever the arteries of the throat, thoroughly bled, and dry picked. No scalded turkeys should be sent to Boston or other eastern markets and a decent price expected. The best New York and eastern markets that pay the highest prices are very particular as to quality.

Great pains should be taken not to tear the skin or soil it with blood or dirt. Make a neat job of removing the entrails. Do not make a large unsightly opening. It should be only large enough to insert one finger to hook on to the bowel, and it is best not to sever the vent until all is drawn and broken off at the gizzard. The entrails should not be broken while being removed. Do not remove the gizzard, heart or liver. W. H. Rudd recommends sending to Boston prior to the Thanksgiving shipment turkeys that are not drawn or headed. The skin should be free from bruises or discolorations, and should not be soiled with blood or dirt. The dressed turkeys should be hung up until all animal heat has left them before they are put together for delivery or packed for shipment, or they may become discolored.

You are fortunate if one or two reliable men handle the turkeys of your section. The majority will then receive a better price than if each ships his own. The dealer can take the whole lot and separate it into several grades and sell it to advantage. He can pay more, because he will get more for it. The retailer and marketman has but one or two men to deal with instead of a number, many of whom from inexperience are easily bluffed and brought where they are ready to put the price very low in order to sell their product. The dealer knows from experience who the beats are, and who always make returns under weight. He also knows who are good, and what grade each man wants. Long before the stock is ready for killing he knows how many old and young turkeys are to be brought to him, and much about their quality. He books his orders from the marketmen weeks before they are to be filled. By requiring turkeys of high quality from every grower, and refusing to buy thin and very inferior birds, he influences producers to keep better stock and adopt better methods. Thus the reputation of the turkeys from that section may be improved year by year.

All turkeys must be tested by the nose of the experienced dealer, to be sure that they are freshly killed as well as have all blood spots washed off. They are then carefully sorted and graded, and packed in paper lined boxes for shipment. It is best to have uniform packages, and the number and gross and net

FROM LOWELL, MASS.

The Home of Hood's Sarsaparilla—
A Wonderful Cure.

"A swelling as big as a large marble came under my tongue. Physicians said it was a semi-transparent tumor and must be operated upon. I felt I could not stand it, and as spring came began to take my favorite spring tonic, Hood's Sarsaparilla. The bunch gradually decreased and finally disappeared. I have had no sign of its return. I am glad to praise Hood's Sarsaparilla." MRS. H. M. COBURN, 8 Union St., Lowell, Mass. Get HOOD'S.

Hood's Pills cure Sick Headache. 25c.

BREEDING STOCK
For Sale.

Having finished hatching for this season, I will sell the stock I have bred from in lots to suit. Must be sold to make room for the youngsters.

Barred Plymouth Rocks,

(Brown Egg Strain; "The business fowl of the 19th century.")

White Wyandottes,

(Brown Egg, Prolific Laying Stock.)

A. F. HUNTER,

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Broilers for Profit, 50 cents.
Profitable Poultry Farming, 25 cents.
A Living from Poultry, 25 cents.
Money in Hens, 25 cents.
The four books for \$1.00. Address
MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammondon, N. J.

FRESH CUT BONE

AND

MEAT FOR POULTRY,

Also Beef Scraps, O. K. Animal Food, Oyster Shells, Fish Meal, Granulated Bone, Steamed Meat, Grit, etc. Address,

BARTLETT & HOLMES,

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C. A. BARTLETT, Worcester, Mass.
Send for catalogue.



The only reliable Lotion positively preventing Flies, Gnats and Insects of every description from annoying Horses and Cattle. Soothing and Healing if applied to sores. Applied to cows it secures gains in Flesh and Milk. Guaranteed Pure, Harmless and Effective. Gallon Can, \$1.50, 1/2 Gallon \$1.00; Quarts, 50c. Beware of imitations.

Selling Agents, JOS. BRECK & SONS, Corp., 47-54 No. Market St., Boston, Mass.

LORD'S
Black Langshans.

100 good breeding hens, 1 and 2 years old, \$1 each, in lots of 6 or more.

25 choice breeding hens, 1 and 2 years old, \$2 each in lots of 3 or more.

Correspondence solicited. Cash must accompany order. J. H. LORD, Box 26, Lawrence, Mass.

P. Don't waste time experimenting with the other kinds but send direct to us or ask your dealer to get it for you. We have a list of terms and testimonials that is yours for the asking. Scatter P. D. Q. in furniture and around edges of carpets. WORCESTER COMPOUND CO. Worcester.	Powder Drives Quickly is neither poisonous nor explosive but is fatal to vermin. Fleas and lice drop instantly dead. It is also the best disinfectant known for hospitals, stables, kennels, poultry houses and every place where vermin can lodge.
D.	Q.

weight and initials at least of the shipper should each be written plainly on the cover. An equal number of hens and toms are usually put in each package. Thanksgiving shipments should reach markets the previous Saturday or Munday.

Resorts like Newport use hundreds of partly grown turkeys in July and August. From \$1.75 to \$2.25 are given for those weighing from one and one-half to four pounds each. They are sold to dealers who supply clubs, hotels and wealthy private families. These small turkeys are very lean and tender, and soon spoil or become discolored even if placed on ice, therefore only nearby raisers can handle this trade.

If there is much risk of loss from disease before the turkeys can be matured, or if the number grown is so great as to overstock the place, it may be advisable to turn them off at this age.

Possibly there are many other sections where small turkeys can be profitably marketed in this way. If young chickens, ducks and geese can be sold at greater profit, for more money, when partly grown than if kept until much larger and fed twice or three times as long, there may be possibilities for the enterprising turkey raiser in this direction.

SAMUEL CUSHMAN.

Notes and Comments.

Stray straws show which way the wind is blowing. When bales of straw come flying through the air we are apt to give more thought to the power than to the direction of the wind which propels them, and to conclude without waiting to measure its actual velocity that the breeze is rather stiff. It was about a year ago that the utility vs. beauty, or utility vs. fancy (whichever you choose to call it), discussion crept into the poultry papers; today it is occupying a larger place in the thought of poultrymen in this country than any other, and if we may judge from the tone of the English papers the same question is forcing itself to the front over there.

It strikes me as rather singular that the British poultry press should so long have almost ignored the practical aspects of poultry culture while in so many shows the practical nature of the exhibits was so prominent. On this side of the water the reverse was the case, there having been for years papers devoted quite exclusively to practical poultry culture, while in the shows practical exhibits were conspicuously wanting. It would be idle to speculate in a poultry paper on the possible reasons for this difference; the question involved is one that belongs to a branch of a so-called higher science. However, we have seen within a few years our American shows giving encouragement to a form of practical exhibit, and within a few months a British poultry paper admitting the importance of that aspect of the question, and advertising its intention of publishing a class of articles especially designed to help practical poultry growers.

There is something amusing to me in the editorial reference which this paper makes to one of the first of its practical articles; it is so apologetic. The editor says, "There is an evident inclination to treat the poultry question on a large scale, and to take interest in it we purpose, during the season of partial leisure and relief from poultry shows, to devote some papers to the subject." The previous issue of the same paper contained a lecture on "Fancy Poultry Culture," devoted largely and in a similarly apologetic strain to the utility-fancy question, and the writings of its various correspondents add another straw to the bundle, the course of which suggests the blowing of a powerful breeze.

In the lecture referred to, the lecturer (Mr. C. H. Hallam) had no sooner introduced his subject than he began to pay his respects to the utility men in this manner:

"The subject of fancy poultry culture naturally touches the much debated question of utility vs. fancy fowls. Ought the prime object of breeding to be utility or beauty? And are these really incompatible objects? There are large arguments on both sides. But I am sure that in the main fancy breeding subserves utility. If it were not for the fancier breeding for distinguishing characteristics, in a very few years there would scarcely be a single distinct variety, and the value of crossing, as well as distinctive size, type and beauty would be lost."

Further on he says:

"No doubt in a few breeds the fancier's idea of type, form, and feather has not improved the useful qualities, but in others he has immensely improved them; and further, it is to the fancier that all the various breeds are due."

There are texts for several sermons in those extracts, but I shall at this point only remark two things: The claims that without the fancier distinct varieties would be lost, and that to the fancier all the various breeds are due. Those are very broad claims. Will the facts support them? I am disposed to give the fancier all the credit due him, though it does not seem to me necessary to call attention to the value of his services in every paragraph I write; but when I begin to examine the validity of such claims as those above my estimate of the value of the fancier's services is diminished rather than increased. When I look for answers to the questions: What would happen to the breeds were there no fanciers? and, Are all the various breeds due to the fanciers? such claims by a fancier seem to approach the ridiculous. Fancy poultry culture has a history of about half a century. Admitting that the improvement within that period should be credited to the fancier's methods, there still remains the question: What was the condition of domestic poultry before the fancier took it in hand? The stock reply to that question is insufficient. A study of the histories of the various breeds will show that there were well defined races for many years before the fanciers made their influence felt. In truth, with few exceptions the *classes* of fowls were established independently of the fanciers. And while it is true that the practical poultry interest as it exists today is in part an outgrowth of an organized "fancy," it is also true that the "fancy" itself could not have existed at all had it not been able to take as its raw material the results of unorganized utility breeding in various sections of the globe. The fancier has been the finisher. It is as incorrect to say he made the breeds as to say the painter built the house. (The analogy between the fancier and the painter might be extended to several other particulars). Knowing the status of the breeds before the days of fanciers, we can surmise something of the condition which would probably follow should the fanciers turn their energies elsewhere. Our surmise based on such premises would lead us to neither breed extinction nor mongrelism.

"I used to have rather large sympathies with the utility advocates, but larger information and experience has carried me into the fanciers' ranks. With indiscriminate crossing there is soon a degeneracy of the two chief utility points, size and egg production. Without careful cultivation there is the same rapid deterioration in all animal and vegetable life."

When Mr. Hallam says "larger information and experience" carried him into the fanciers' ranks, he voices a delusion common among men of all ranks and classes. We all go through the world with the notion that people who don't think as we do don't know as much; it is a heresy that taints us all. It was but the other day that I received a letter from one whose position is just the reverse of Mr. Hallam's; he began as a fancier, and his "larger information and experience" carried him into the utility ranks. In writing of a moot point he used the expression, "If you really think" thus and thus is so, "you have something to learn;" and in writing of a third party he said, "He is where we were a few years ago." The fact is, our opinions in many—I might well say in most—instances are governed by interest when they are not decided by mere whim. We don't like to admit this even to ourselves. It pleases us to imagine that our views have been deliberately formed after judiciously balancing all the pros and cons.

Mr. Hallam, like his congeners in this country, is unwilling to see that utility breeding does not mean indiscriminate crossing—does not necessarily mean crossing at all. In nothing is the weakness of our opponents more clearly shown than in their refusal to state the question fairly and argue it on its merits. This is virtually an admission that knowing the untenableness of their position they are at the same time afraid to attempt to defend, and unwilling to abandon it.

"Scientific breeding during the last thirty

years has produced some dozens of varieties, some with special laying powers, others with special table qualities, and all with great beauty and interest. The utility man has now but to select that variety most useful to him. The fancier will preserve the variety for him."

Commenting on this in the next issue of the same paper, "Rufus" says, "It is the fancier who both *makes* and *preserves* the very article the utility man needs, and places it just ready to his hand; in fact, does all the hardest of the work for him." All of which reminds one very forcibly of a clothing dealer trying to sell a particular suit to a man who wasn't made for the clothes. When will the fanciers learn that we don't want their misfit fowls, that when we take their product it is for the purpose of altering it to suit our special needs, and that our aim is to make those alterations a fixity in each breed? The utility men wish to establish their own types. They are perfectly willing the fancier should do the work for them, provided always, he does it to their order; but so far utility breeders have found it necessary to use *fancy* fowls mostly as models embodying the germs of the developments they want.

"There are several rather large maggots in the minds of utility theorists; one is that by breeding only from extraordinary layers a strain would be produced which would lay two hundred and fifty eggs a year each. Another is that by careful mating laying and table qualities can be combined. And another is that we could by these methods produce at home the £4,000,000 worth of poultry and eggs which we annually import from abroad. These ideas look feasible, but they won't stand examination.

"As to the endless layers, the chief difficulty is this, that the most prolific layers are always the most infertile; and furthermore, the few chickens which can be got from them are not nearly so strong as chickens from more moderate layers. * * *

"Then as to the combination of laying and table qualities * * * these qualities are absolutely incompatible and contradictory * * * the attempt to combine them merely results in a useful fowl, but without excellence in either respect."

The lecturer fortifies his assertion that great layers are infertile by citing two cases from his own yards. They fail to prove his point, because in the first place, in both it is open to doubt whether the infertility was due to the extraordinary laying; and, in the second place, a similar infertility has repeatedly been observed in the case of normal and inferior layers. Taking the question broadly and considering breeds instead of individuals, do we not find it a general truth that the highest percentage of fertility is found in the eggs of greatest layers? In this country the assertion that laying and table qualities cannot be combined in the same breed, needs little comment. The utility man does not claim, remember, that he can unite the highest type of egg production with the finest table fowl, but that he can unite in one fowl enough excellence in both respects to make that fowl more profitable than a fowl which excels it in either respect, and is inferior in the other. Mr. Hallam ought to find "food for thought" in the fact that American general purpose fowls are rapidly supplanting the old favorites in the affections of many English fanciers and breeders.

"Then the idea of the possibility of replacing the four millions worth of imported eggs and poultry by home production is an amiable delusion, with which I have much sympathy, but which I am sure is impracticable under our present land and commercial system. * * Besides, the breeding of fancy poultry pays better than mere utility poultry. It is probable that this country's aggregate returns from poultry exceed that of France, in spite of the fact that France raises three times as many fowls and eggs as we do, simply because our stock of poultry is so much more valuable than theirs."

Mr. Hallam could hardly have seen the report of the British consul of the district of Cherbourg when he wrote as above, and as follows:

"The British are undoubtedly pre-eminent in the breeding of the very best class of live stock of all kinds. It is the quality and not the quantity which is most remunerative. This certainly applies to poultry; and it is clear that while British poultry breeders can produce high class birds which realize good prices it would be wasting energy to breed inferior fowls in quantities for the mere sake of competing with continental peasants. It would merely return peasants' wages at best."

This argument assumes, apparently that England's poultry breeding resources are taxed

to their utmost in the production of high class stock, and that the production of more *utility* poultry would mean the production of less *high class* poultry. If it did it would be because of a decrease in the demand for high class stock. That reference to competition with continental peasants seems to have been borrowed from some of our American campaign literature; only over here the peasant mentioned is a resident of an island.

Concerning British pre-eminence in live stock breeding, "Rufus," too, has a word to say, that interests us on this side of the Atlantic:

"No one will, I presume, dispute the assertion that the Briton is unquestionably pre-eminent in breeding the very best of all kinds of live stock; but it has often struck me as singular that no matter what kind of stock it be that the foreigner, or resident in our colonies comes over to buy, though in most cases they take the very best specimens of the day, they have to come again from time to time to fetch fresh blood from this tight little island; and we hear of only a few isolated cases where the offspring is sufficiently good to cause Englishmen to return the compliment. Why is it that, no matter how heavily the foreigner may come and buy up our best, we still keep at the top?—and in nothing is this more evident than in poultry."

There are several reasons for the state of affairs here described, or rather for the facts so far as they answer to the description. First, a word as to the facts. In the United States the time is passing when the magic word, "imported," will conjure dollars from the amateur's pocket. We are getting bravely over the delusion that England produces better fowls than we do. It has cost something in both experience and cash to arrive at this point of view, and there will be no general backsliding. An all important factor in bringing us to our present point of view has been that even with a strong predilection for things from abroad, neither distinctively English breeds, nor English types of breeds have been able to hold a place in popular favor, as against American breeds and American types. Add to this the growing popularity of our own new breeds in England, and we feel that without presumption we may challenge British pre-eminence in poultry breeding, whether considered from the fancy or utility standpoint.

But there is a reason, apart from mere skill in breeding, why the buyer of British live stock should go back to headquarters for fresh blood. After the change of climate the stock generally suffers some deterioration; the breeder in his efforts to maintain the original type continues the importation of specimens of that type. This is short-sighted breeding, for as long as it is continued a whole stock will be kept in a condition of semi-acclimatization. When the breeders in a foreign country or colony act in concert, import enough individuals of a given kind, at one time, to make it unnecessary, barring a wholesale destruction, to ever make another importation from the tight little island, and then take the necessary pains and time to develop the breed in its new home, I think British breeders of all kinds of stock will find that much of their pre-eminence has vanished.

I have already extended, these notes to a greater length than was intended, and have not even shaken my head in the direction of many of the red rags hung out by the lecturer. I cannot conclude without quoting the closing sentence, which appears to me to embody the cardinal point in the fanciers' creed, and to indicate the essential difference between fanciers and utility breeders:

"I do not pretend to sneer at the financial returns from poultry, but they should follow and not control the interests of the 'Fancy' at large."

JOHN H. ROBINSON.

THE BEST LIQUID LICE KILLER

Made can be delivered at your home for not more than 40 cts. a gallon. Better than Lee's or Lake's. Easy to use. Applied as a paint to the roosts—it kills all lice on fowls roosting over it, and all lice and vermin in buildings. Used everywhere. Send for circulars.

THE S. C. STUBBS CO.,
41 Race St., Bradshaw, Nebr.

WE HAVE NO MORE

PEKIN DUCK EGGS FOR SALE,

but we are prepared to book orders for breeding stock, which will be delivered on any date desired. We have hundreds of choice birds ready. For price and show record, see circular.

A. J. HALLOCK,
Atlantic Farm. Speonk, L. I., N. Y.

Do You See It in the Poultry Keeper? It Isn't So.

That "Little Compton" Yarn.

"Our good friend Hunter, editor of FARM-POULTRY, is not satisfied with making hens lay over two hundred eggs a year, but goes still higher, compelling them to lay more eggs than there are days in the year. About *three years ago* the 'Little Compton' yarn went rolling around the poultry papers until we exposed it. Now, Little Compton cannot be very far from Bro. Hunter's home, and he should certainly be sufficiently interested in visiting a farm containing four thousand hens, each hen laying four hundred and fifty eggs a year, especially as he went much further—to Europe—where the hens do not lay one-half as many.

Here is the item which appeared in FARM-POULTRY, word for word:

"Isaac Wilbour, of Little Compton, R. I., has the largest poultry farm in the world. He ships from 130,000 to 150,000 dozen of eggs a year. He keeps his fowls on the colony plan, housing about forty in a house 8 x 12 feet in size, these houses being about one hundred and fifty feet apart, set out in long rows over the gently sloping fields. He has one hundred of these houses, scattered over three or four fields. The food is loaded into a low wagon, which is driven about to each house in turn, the attendant feeding as he goes; at the afternoon feeding the eggs are collected. The fowls are fed twice a day. The morning food is a mash of cooked vegetables and mixed meals; this mash is made up the afternoon of the day before. The afternoon feed is whole corn the year round."

Mr. E. A. Rowe, of Towson, Md., makes the best comment on the above. He says:

"It lays over anything I have ever run across, for thirty years, and have just found out the reason why I have never made a fortune. I never struck the right kind of fowls, but Mr. Wilbour *certified* hens. This notice will compare favorably with any of the periodical snake or serpent yarns, and the writer must have found another secluded spot in Rhode Island where a man and boy do all the work." His hens not only lay *every day* of the year, but throw in extras for Sundays and holidays.

"Let us take a look at the figures. He gets from 130,000 to 150,000 dozen eggs per year, (ships that many,) and of course he gets more in order to raise his stock, but we will not count that, but take the 130,000 dozen. Now, he has one hundred houses, each with forty fowls, (house 8 x 12) but no waste room here. Allow all the fowls to be *hens*, no males, then each hen lays 390 eggs per year. Take the 150,000 dozens and we have 450 eggs per each hen per year. They do not waste any time to moult, set, or anything else, but keep up the perpetual motion and more besides. Now I would not for a moment insinuate that there was any misrepresentation here. Oh, no; it is simply wonderful! It may be that the climate and water of Little Compton has some effect, or perhaps they are allowed more than 365 days per year to make up for the smallness of Compton or Rhode Island. This is only guess work with me, and the more I guess the further I stick in the mud. Perhaps a sermon from your able pen might enlighten us poor misguided chicken cranks on the subject."

The above shows just what the claim in favor of extra production of eggs is worth. We have no doubt that hundreds of poor deluded mortals have made trips to Little Compton only to be disappointed, and even if such unreliable statements go unchallenged the result will be that poultry papers will cease to be reliable. Twelve years ago that same thing went the rounds, copied by editors who should have known better. We exposed it, and now it has resurrected again."—*Poultry Keeper*, June 15th.

A few more articles like that will establish for the editor of the *Poultry Keeper* a reputation that will make the most unprincipled scoundrel and most consummate liar on earth appear a saint by comparison. Mr. Jacobs' editorial villainies present not a single redeeming feature. There is about them nothing of the dash and shrewdness which often betrays decent people into a sneaking admiration for an evil doer, even while in the act of condemning him for his evil deeds.

This last is one of the most bungling lies that ever disgraced the columns of a poultry paper. There are thousands of people who have kept complete files of FARM-POULTRY, and any one of them can show to whoever cares to know the truth that the item quoted did not appear in that paper.

In FARM-POULTRY for Dec. 15, 1896, (page 433) is a description of "A Great Poultry Farm." From statements in this article either Jacobs or his running mate Howe succeeded in juggling the paragraph which he menda-

ciously affirms is taken "word for word" from FARM-POULTRY. With the exception of the first two sentences the "item" did appear in F.P., though not quite word for word. Instead of saying, "Isaac Wilbour, of Little Compton, R. I., has the largest poultry farm in the world," Mr. Hunter, who wrote the description, after (Mr. Jacobs will please note) a visit to Mr. Wilbour's farm, said:

"A poultry farm which carries four thousand head of laying stock may fairly be considered 'great.' In fact, we believe it is the greatest we ever visited or heard of, and as we think we should have heard of it if there had been one larger, we will assume that this is the largest poultry farm in the United States; and is, consequently, the largest in the world. * * * Isaac Wilbour, Esq., of Little Compton, R. I., is the poultry farmer we have in mind. * * *"

Mr. Hunter did say, "Isaac Wilbour, of Little Compton, R. I., has the largest poultry farm in the world;" but he did not use the words attributed to FARM-POULTRY by Mr. Jacobs.

As to the quantities of eggs shipped, here is what appeared in FARM-POULTRY:

"In addition to his own four thousand hens he buys up the poultry and eggs from a considerable region about there, and ships some one hundred and thirty thousand to one hundred and fifty thousand dozen eggs to market yearly."

In Mr. Hunter's article, which occupies two and a half columns of FARM-POULTRY, the statement as to the size of Mr. Wilbour's plant appears in the first paragraph: that as to the number of eggs he ships in the next to the last paragraph, and the methods of caring for the stock in the fourth paragraph.

FARM-POULTRY did not publish the item as quoted, and the statements made in FARM-POULTRY regarding Mr. Wilbour's farm are absolutely correct.

We want to ask Mr. Jacobs now, what he proposes to do about it. If there yet remains in him the least vestige of principle, truth or honor, he will, after having been convicted of giving publicity to such malicious and slanderous falsehoods as constituted his "exposure" of Mr. Wilbour and FARM-POULTRY, make an immediate and unqualified retraction of his statements, and apology for his conduct.

A Great Duck Farm.

Editorial Correspondence.

Fancy the delight of a nineteenth century American at finding himself a guest in a fifteenth century house—a house built before Columbus discovered America! "Ghosts? Oh, yes, we've ghosts galore," said Miss Walsh, "only they are four legged, and belong to the order *rodentia*!" Much more fun we had in the late evening, after Mr. Peter Walsh and the writer had arrived at Bourne Hall, Poulton-le-Fylde, near Fleetwood, some forty miles north-west of Manchester. It was at the Royal show that I was introduced to Mr. Walsh, who had three or four of his "Aeme" incubators on exhibition there, and accepted his cordial invitation to accompany him home and see the great duck farm. When I awoke the next morning it was to discover a massive oak beam athwart the ceiling of the room in which I had slept, and the solid door, innocent of frame, shutting against the stone partition wall, was eloquent of age. "It was long, long ago that they built houses after this fashion," I thought, as I walked to the window and found a dense mass of ivy projecting more than a foot beyond the wall.

"Look out you don't get lost in the mazes of that old house," said a mutual friend, when I told him I was going home with Mr. Walsh; but the passages and stone stair cases were less "mazy" by daylight than they appeared well towards midnight, and I soon found my way to the incubator room where Mr. Walsh was turning the eggs. There were about twenty 100-egg incubators at work, all hatching duck eggs, in that incubator room improvised from an old out-house. Three of them were due to hatch the next day, and most of the eggs were already pipped; in one machine that I looked over quite closely I saw but four eggs that were not pipped.

Bourne Hall farm is of about three hundred acres, and has been occupied by the Walshs, four brothers and two sisters, nearly twenty years. They kept hens, just for their own use, as every farmer does; but Mr. Peter

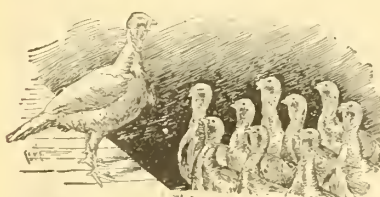
Walsh was not satisfied with the dilatory methods of hens that wouldn't become broody, and began to experiment with incubator construction, making as a starter, one of the pattern in which you poured in hot and drew off cold water two or three times a day. This worked quite well, and by attending to it faithfully very fair hatches resulted; but Mr. Walsh believed he could better it, and went to work upon a regulator—the result of several years of experiment and growth being the "Aeme" incubator, which he is now exhibiting and manufacturing for sale. This is a hot water incubator of the common tank pattern, the heat being imparted to the water in the tank by a blue passing through the tank and then out of top of machine. The lamp is at the end of the machine, and the heat from the lamp flame passes into the blue, or out of top of blue connection, if a damper, hung upon an arm, is lifted or dropped upon the top of the chimney. The damper arm is lifted if the heat in the egg chamber gets above the desired degree, the regulating force being the expansion or contraction of ether, confined in a sealed capsule about the size of a silver dollar. This capsule regulator, by the way, is quite as generally used here in England as the thermostatic bar is in America.

In the top of the "Aeme" is an apartment occupying about half the size of the machine, which Mr. Walsh calls a "drying box," and which corresponds to the space below the egg trays in many of our American incubators, into which the ducks or chicks are dropped until well dried off. The egg tray of Mr. Walsh's incubator rests upon the bottom of the machine, and a most ingenious egg turning device has recently been added to it. This egg turning device consists of iron rods about a quarter of an inch in diameter, set about an inch apart, (for ducks' eggs) and revolved by gears upon the ends. They are so geared that one pair of rods turn the eggs resting upon them to the right, the next pair turning their eggs to the left—and each row of eggs is thus reversed, each assisting in the turning operation. It is very ingenious, and is the result of much study and experimenting, and is, of course, covered by letters patent. The rolls of this egg turning apparatus are moved by a key, much as a clock is wound.

Besides turning the eggs night and morning, and airing them a few minutes before returning them to the machine, Mr. Walsh was dampening them with a cloth dipped in warm water. He also sprinkled a pint or thereabouts of the water over the sanded floor of the room. He told us he had found by experiment that he got better hatches when he thus dampened the eggs.

Going out to the duck plantation, we were surprised to find that with thousands of young ducklings there they have no buildings whatever, save a cook house. In fact, it would be impossible to conduct a large duck raising business upon a smaller amount of capital invested. The Walshs keep no breeding ducks, but buy their eggs from farmers about, hence they have no houses and yards for breeding stock, and as all of the ducklings are hatched in late spring and summer, they get along with almost no artificial heat. There was an outdoor brooder, ("rearer" they call it over here), into which the ducklings go for two or three days until they get well onto their feet and used to eating and drinking in the orthodox way.

The next step is a transfer to a small pen, perhaps fifteen feet square, which is sanded to a depth of three or four inches, and in one side of it is a coop made of a common goods box in which is an inch of sawdust for bedding, and which is their shelter at night. If



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the weather is raw and cold a lamp enclosed in a wire frame not unlike a small bird cage, is set inside the coop to take the chill out of the air. More than that it cannot do, and anything approximating to a "hover" is absolutely unknown.

The ducklings live in these small sanded pens until about ten days old, then are put out into grass runs, which are pens about a hundred feet square—their only housing being the same cheaply built coops. The fencing of the pens is one foot wide wire netting, which is supported by a strand of eighth-inch wire drawn taut over small stakes driven firmly into the ground. The customary feed troughs and water fountains are supplied to each pen, and here, in this most inexpensive manner some ten thousand ducklings are hatched, reared, dressed, and sent to market. The food is a mixed meal and meat scraps. The meal is chiefly oats somewhat finely ground, (oat meats free from the hulls), with some barley meal, some maize meal, and wheat middlings. Oat meal, Mr. Walsh says, makes the best flesh, hence he uses it chiefly for his best ducks, although it costs about three times as much as maize meal. The meat scraps are the common butchers' trimmings, with the fat pressed out, and which are bought in the cake; of these Mr. Walsh uses about twenty tons in a season. He chops them up somewhat with an axe, then puts them in a jacket kettle, and turns on the steam from the boiler. They are cooked and cooked until quite soft, then meal is mixed with them, and they are fed to the ducklings in that shape. Of course some of the pieces are of quite a size, but the ducklings tear them into pieces they can swallow, and they "go."

Mr. Walsh told me he began marketing his ducklings the latter part of May, usually, when they were about nine weeks old, and that they fetched six shillings and sixpence (\$1.62) a pair throughout the season, which lasts until about November first. He markets them all in Manchester. London is too far off, and cost of carriage would eat up the profits. Several large pens were occupied by a different class of ducks, and I asked what they might be. "Those are Irish ducks," was the reply, "which we buy and fatten for a cheaper market." One would think the ducks could be better fattened where they are reared; but the Irish farmers are too slovenly in their methods, and want to raise their birds in the cheapest possible way. They are very lean when they are brought to England—are but little more than bone (frame) and feathers, and are tremendous eaters. Of course the flesh of such ducks is inferior to that of ducks well fed from the start, and those Irish ducks sell at a lower price in the market. Mr. Walsh said he usually bought them at about twenty shillings (\$5) the dozen, and after feeding them well for about three weeks they would market at thirty shillings (\$7.50) or better the dozen. In other words, feeding them well for about three weeks added fifty per cent at least to their value. We had seen some of those Irish (unfatted) ducks for sale in a Manchester poultry shop, at a shilling, (25 cents) each—they didn't look appetizing!

Of these Irish ducks the Walshs buy and fatten about ten thousand in a season, and supplement that by buying and fattening about fifteen hundred lean Irish geese for the Christmas market.

It was mentioned that Mr. Walsh doesn't keep any breeding ducks, and bought his eggs of the farmers about. He keeps a few, perhaps eight or ten, just as every farmer does, and a flock like that, with the free range of the farm and a small pond to disport in will give stronger, healthier eggs than ducks confined in houses and yards. He reports the average fertility of those boughten eggs as very high; in the height of the season he may not find one infertile egg in a hundred, and they hatch strong vigorous ducklings. He sends a team out on a collecting tour twice a week during the hatching season, and also has two or three other collectors who pick up duck eggs for him on their regular routes, he meeting them at the market place and taking their supply. Of course in this manner, and agreeing to take all the duck eggs collected from certain specified farms, he sometimes finds he has more than he has incubators for, and those he puts under hens. In strolling about the place I had noted a small enclosure, perhaps half an acre, with a row of barrels extending quite

around the edges, the barrels being about ten or twelve feet apart. In each barrel was a hen sitting, a board with a small stone holding it in place being the cover. I was puzzled to account for so many sitting hens until I learned that this was the "balance wheel," to take care of the surplus duck eggs.

In this brief manner I have set down what I saw in my short visit to Bourne Hall, a visit which gave me, certainly, many pleasurable impressions. I was the first visitor Mr. Walsh has had from far off America, and sincerely hope the next one may not meet with a less cordial welcome.

H.

From One of the Old Guard.

Mr. Editor:—I have before me the photograph of Mr. Shortledge's feed trough, which will do very well; but, if you can do better it is desirable to know how it is done. I, too, studied a long time as to how a feed trough could be constructed so as to keep the fowls from walking through the feed, and thus fouling it.

For years I have made my feed troughs on this plan: I take two strips of boards, one five inches wide, the other six inch, the length to suit convenience. I then nail the six inch strip on to the edge of the five inch, (which makes an old fashioned eve trough); then I square the ends; then to each end I nail on a board 10 x 18 inches, which will be about five inches above the trough; then directly over the center of the trough I cut out a slot to let in a board one inch thick and three inches wide, which should set about two inches above the top of the trough. On the top edge of this rail (which reaches from one end of the trough to the other) I drive in shingle nails about one-third of their length one inch apart.

I have yet to see a fowl in my troughs, or standing on the guard rail. No wire to bother, and if you use them in the yard just bore a half-inch hole through the bottom of one end, and you will not be troubled with emptying them when it rains. This trough gives me perfect satisfaction, and is cheap, handy and quickly made. I have been in the fancy (so called) poultry business since 1850, and was, I think, the first one to introduce the Bronze turkey into Massachusetts. Did you ever read a book called the "Hen Fever?" Well I was in it badly, with Burnham, Childs, Faxon, and others whose names have gone from me. My neighbors and townsmen called me crazy, but when they saw me selling chicks six weeks old for three dollars per head, and full grown ones for fifteen dollars, they changed their minds and invested in my stock.

For the past thirty years I have done but very little in the line of poultry; have only five yards; but what I have are square; no mongrels for me. I am greatly pleased with F.-P. I read some of the articles twice over, and it pays to do so, too. R. S. COOK.

West Townsend, Mass.

P. S. I don't know as you can read the above. I am nearly seventy-six, and am much broken down, mentally and physically.

R. S. C.

[We only wish all the MSS. that come to our desk were as easy to read as Mr. Cook's, and as easily edited; a few *ands* written out, a comma inserted here and there, and it was done. We poultrymen (editors included) of the present generation like to hear from those who have been in it from the beginning—most of all from those who keep pace with the times, and are not continually harping on the good old days. Not long ago we received a letter from one of the veterans in which he administered a mental spanking. We don't know yet what it was for. He quoted an expression from our columns, conveying an idea which is axiomatic to all progressive poultry men, and without a word of explanation, without deigning to show us where we were wrong, suggested that, "You young fellows had better learn your lesson, before you attempt to teach." That struck us as rather funny, inasmuch as Mr. Hunter was a war veteran, Mr. Boyer old enough to be P. H. Jacobs' uncle, and the substitute editor never was young anyway, and just at that time was older than he had ever been before. —ED.]

"De darkey's hour am jes' befo' day," said Uncle Aaron, as he invaded his neighbor's chicken roost at 3 A. M. — Puck.

The Utility Standard.

I hold that a man should be able to give a reason for the hope that is in him, and also, when called upon to explain the absence of the hope that is not in him. Then, having expressed myself to the effect that the utility men need hope for no concessions from the fanciers in the coming revision of the standard, it is incumbent on me to show why I adhere to this view—and I know of no place more appropriate for the setting forth of my reasons than the preface to an article on the utility standard.

Since the appearance of the article (F.-P., Nov. 15th, 1896), in which I advocated the construction of a standard based on utility qualifications, and the establishment of a system of practical competition, but one writer has offered a respectable challenge to my statements regarding the conditions and the needs of the industry. The writings of the person referred to ought really to be taken seriously, as the idle thoughts of a busy fellow—too busy with many things to be well informed about any; but since they have been partly serious they have been treated seriously, and I think the result of the discussion has been to give to many a somewhat clearer view of the situation than they had before.

On the other hand, there have appeared here, there, and everywhere—before, at, and since the time referred to—from all sorts and conditions of poultrymen—statements, items and articles confirming my allegations. I am justified, then, in concluding that the great body of poultrymen accede to my propositions; that,

The highest general develop of utility qualities cannot be attained under existing conditions; that,

The present standard is not adapted to the needs of the utility breeder; and that,

A change must come.

Now the questions arise: Shall the change be made within the American Poultry Association, or outside of it?

Can the standard be so changed that it will suit both fancier and poultier?

Because my answer to the second question is: No; my answer to the first is that the change must be made by the utility men in an association apart from the fanciers. A standard that will suit both parties is an impossibility; a compromise standard is unwise, because it is unnecessary. By it neither party would gain; both would lose. A compromise standard would be the beginning of bitter bickerings which would surely end in separate standards. It would but postpone the inevitable. The world is wide, and there is in it room enough for two distinct associations with separate aims to live without quarreling. That fancy and utility breeders could not form a congenial association must be evident to everyone who knows what each party is seeking. As Mr. Sternberg pointed out in the paragraph which I quoted not long ago, "Economic poultry and poultry bred for exhibition have in common only the fact that both ideas are developed in and by fowls." While each idea is worked out independently there can be no antagonism, and may even be a species of harmony; for there is nothing incongruous in a man's being at the same time fancier and poultier provided he does not mix recreation and business, and does not attempt to work out the two opposing ideas in the same individual fowls. That more practical poultrymen are not fanciers too, is due first to the fact that a man cannot long appreciate a beauty which by curtailing his profits interferes with his comforts; and next, to the general law that attracts men to some form of recreation not related to their business. And if inquiry were made, it would, I think, be found that those breeders who make a business of rearing fancy poultry turn from it in their hours of leisure just as the poulterers do.

Recognizing, as I do in the "fancy" a perfectly legitimate form of recreation which furnishes enjoyment to a large class of people, and being myself enough of a fancier to feel thoroughly in sympathy with their tastes, (though I cannot refrain from ridiculing some of their weaknesses), I should regard it as the height of folly in the fanciers to curtail in any degree the pleasure or profit they derive from their fad, in order to add to the profits of the poulterers—all the more because this

immolation of fancy on the altar of utility is entirely unnecessary. It is because the fanciers are today, as they have been in the past, in the ascendant in the American Poultry Association that I said I feared Mr. Cushman's suggestions were seed sown on stony ground. And while it would be possible for the "good men and true" in the association, if joined by enough of the practical men not now connected with it, to revise the present standard to suit themselves, such a movement would do their cause more harm than good.

In presenting some of my ideas of what the utility standard should be, I do not presume to speak for any one else; neither do I assume that I am better qualified than another to advance ideas on this subject; nor imagine that as a whole my views will coincide with what may ultimately be found to be the will of the majority of poultry breeders having the same general end in view. I am sufficiently well acquainted with the opinionous current among readers of FARM-POULTRY to know that to some my views will seem too radical, and to others too conservative—to some wise, to others foolish. Such as they are they are offered for your consideration and criticism. Pull them to pieces; turn them inside out; show up their weak points. I will defend them while I can, and abandon them when I must.

Let us suppose the practical poultrymen of the country to have organized an association of which the object is, "to determine and maintain the most useful types of the utility breeds of fowls, and to promote the breeding of those types by all who raise poultry for profit."

The first thing the association would be called on to decide would be: which are and which are not utility breeds. Each member could perhaps give off-hand a list which he believed complete and correct; but to frame a list that would suit the majority and be fair and just to all breeds and breeders, would be more difficult than at first thought appears. It would not do for the members of the association to specify such and such breeds as utility breeds and therefore entitled to recognition and admission to their standard, and certain

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other breeds as not utility breeds and therefore to be ignored and debarred. The admission or rejection of breeds should be based on a principle—on the application of a general rule, on conformity with certain requirements which would be universally recognized as just and right.

Let us suppose now that the conditions governing the admission of breeds were announced, and at the expiration of a year, which time must elapse before the conditions could be complied with, the breeders of (say) Barred Plymouth Rocks appear to present the claims and credentials and the standard for that variety. The account of what then took place will show what were the requirements. In the first place the promoters present the standard which they have agreed upon, which contains in addition to a description similar to that in the American Standard of Perfection, a statement as to the number of eggs per year the hens of the breed will average. The number specified is one hundred and sixty, being ten more than is required to entitle a breed to admission. With this standard they present properly certified vouchers from twenty-five poultrymen who have kept careful records of flocks of Barred P. Rocks, as described in this standard, for a full year, and have succeeded in getting from their flocks an average egg yield at least equal to that prescribed by the standard, who have set at least three times as many eggs from their flocks as the flocks contained hens, have hatched seventy-five per cent of all eggs set, reared seventy-five per cent of all chicks hatched, and had seventy-five per cent of chicks reared to approximate standard requirements as to weight, shape and color.

Of the vouchers for the breed one-fifth were poultrymen doing business on a large scale, and each furnishing a record from not less than one hundred hens; two-fifths were farmers keeping this breed exclusively, and each furnishing a record for a flock of not less than fifty hens; and two-fifths were people keeping poultry on town lots, and each furnishing a record from not less than ten hens.

On these representations the breed would be admitted, the standard offered would be the accepted standard for Barred P. Rocks until such a time as a number of breeders equal to that which first vouched for the breed, and similarly constituted, should show by their records that an advance in any requirement, (as increasing the egg average to one hundred and sixty-five per year) was warranted by the general condition of the breed, or that its utility value would be increased by a change in weight, color, or shape requirements—and the breed would keep its place in the utility standard only so long as its breeders were ready to produce at any annual meeting when called upon to do so, vouchers similar to those which secured its admission, from poultrymen of whom ten at least had not furnished records the preceding year.

Thus the breeders of each variety would have the making of the standard in their own hands; (the lowest limits in weights and in egg production being fixed by the general association). Under such regulations as are outlined above, they would know just what degree of perfection must be attained before they could secure admission for their varieties. The public would be insured against half-made breeds. A breed to secure admission would have to be practically thoroughbred as per the standard submitted with it, and would have to possess sufficient practical merit to secure a strong following among utility poultrymen several years before application was made for admission to the standard.

Are these requirements too severe? I think not, for if such an association were organized and such a set of rules for admission to the standard promulgated today, there would be a number of breeds ready to be admitted by Sept. 1, 1898.

Now suppose a dozen breeds have been admitted to the utility standard, and the association (the descriptions of breeds minus disqualifications having been furnished by the breeders) proceeds to make a list of disqualifications uniform for all breeds. They would disqualify:

1. Marked departures from typical shape. (A cocky Langshan, or a gaunt, flat-breasted Wyandotte, or a Plymouth Rock of the Brahma type would be ruled out).

2. Variations (to exceed ten per cent) either way, from standard weight.

3. Excessively fat fowls, unless shown in fatted poultry classes.

4. Every kind of deformity: crooked beaks, backs and breasts, wry tails and squirrel tails, also feathers on the shanks of smooth-legged varieties.

It would not be necessary to disqualify for excessive leg and toe feathering, for fowls of that type could never get into the standard; even the moderately well feathered breeds might find it up hill work, because of that requirement of ten farmers with flocks of fifty each. But Cochins and Brahmas of a certain type of feathering could do the trick nicely, and finish with more feathers on their legs than some people expected to see there.

Now as to the requirements for the different breeds. I want to mention two which I think most utility men will agree with me need little change aside from changes indicated in the list of disqualifications, and one in which I am most interested and would make some very radical changes.

Take the Barred Plymouth Rock first. In this breed I would not change the written standard at all, except as the general list of disqualifications would affect it. Then a cock entered for competition would closely approach typical shape, would weigh not less than 8.65 lbs., nor more than 10.45 lbs. in good breeding condition; would not have crooked back or breast; but might have a lopped comb, some white in the ear lobes, and some red feathers in the plumage. These would, if present constitute serious defects because they are departures from the required standard. Allow any shade of standard color so long as the fowls are well barred, but require birds shown together to match in color, unless it can be shown after a sufficient test that birds to match in color cannot be bred from a single mating; then change the color requirements to suit the conditions governing admission to the standard. As for the values of the different sections, I would rate them about as below:

Shape of body	50
Color of plumage	20
Condition	10
Head and comb	10
Shanks and toes	10
	100

Some of my fancier friends can easily find serious objections to the above suggestions; but of two things I feel assured: first, that not a bird would be allowed to compete that was not a good one from the utility standpoint; and, next, that four out of every five breeders of P. Rocks would have to cull closer than they ever did in their lives to get anything like seventy-five per cent of the chicks raised to approximate standard shape and weight.

In the description of Wh. Wyandottes put *creamy white* for color of plumage, and omit "any shade of yellow." Now what difference is there between the established and suggested standards? The weight disqualification; ditto for shape. The absence of the disqualifications for white in ear lobes, single or large combs, feathers other than white, or shanks other than yellow. As the requirements would be for a red ear lobe, a small rose comb, a creamy white plumage and yellow shanks, an ordinarily intelligent application of the standard according to a scale of values similar to that given for P. Rocks would secure greater uniformity in color than the present standard does in shape; and as for shape, it would take much better birds to get a place than many that manage to win under the present system. In fact, with such disqualifications for weight and shape as I have suggested, a flock of utility Rocks or Wyandottes could give any ordinary flock of standard birds of the same breeds long odds on color and still appear more attractive to the eye, just because of their uniformity in size and shape.

The changes I am about to suggest in Buff Leghorns will not suit the admirers of standard Leghorn shape. Yet from my experience with the breed, I think that they would, if followed, give the poultryman one of the best utility breeds, both for eggs and meat, ever offered to the public:

Standard weights—cock, 7 lbs.; cockerel, 6 lbs.; hen, 6 lbs.; pullet, 5 lbs. In standard description make changes as follows: Comb:—For *medium sized*, read *large*, and omit "having but five or six points, five preferred."

Back—after length, insert *broad*. Body and Fluff, and Tail, as per standard for Minorca. Legs and Toes, as for Minorcas except in color.

In the standard for the female make the corresponding changes. Give the Buff Leghorn such a standard as that, and you give the utility man a good fowl to tie to. Give the White and Brown Leghorns similar standards, the weight perhaps, being a little less, and I think you will come pretty near the most profitable types of those varieties. Then make values for the different sections nearly as in the scale given for P. Rocks and Wyandottes, and it will be simply impossible for some of the miserable scrubs that sometimes win, (especially in Buff Leghorns), to get a place in the smallest utility show.

From the above suggestions, embodying the ideas evolved by one utility man in a tolerably thorough study of the question from the profit standpoint, it may be seen that the demands of the practical poulterers would, though much more moderate than mine, be of such a nature that the fanciers could not consider them at all, without virtually handing over their association to the others. What reason is there to think that they would do this? The utility men might take possession by sheer force of numbers. But why should they attempt it? JOHN H. ROBINSON.

Newspaper Poultry-News.

L. R. D., of Brooklyn, sends us a newspaper clipping of an article credited to the *Louisville Dispatch*, and asks that we tell FARM-POULTRY readers what we know of it. We have a whole drawer full of similar clippings sent us by readers. This clipping caught our eye, and we determined to use it for a text. It is headed:

"Mr. Elkins' Queer Fowls. A Cross Between Minorcas and a Bird from the Falkland Islands."

and gives a description of some rare birds alleged to be a cross of Minorcas and fowls resembling parrots. We may safely say that the fowls described never existed save in the brain of some addle-pated space-writer.

It has always been a wonder to us how some newspapers could load their columns with such stuff; and the only explanation we can find for it is that there is a certain class of people who want everything they read to approach the fantastic and improbable. Such people are mental degenerates. Their taste for reading is weak, if not vicious. The worst of it is that the flood of nonsensical articles and paragraphs poured out by the press to gratify such tastes is bound to have some effect on more sober minds. The constant circumstantial recitals of happenings improbable or impossible, has its effect. And as the people who might say something to counteract their influence rarely read them, and if they do think it not worth while to call attention to absurdities which to them seem beyond belief, many people who doubt such statements, seeing that they go unchallenged, gradually come to regard them as to some extent true, or at least founded on truth. It is a safe rule to doubt all reports of unnatural happenings, until the circumstances have been proved true by unimpeachable evidence; and it is a safe rule to assume that the evidence of the ordinary newspaper reporter or correspondent is the reverse of unimpeachable.

Don't read such stuff. If you crave something to stimulate the imagination, find it in purely imaginative writings which do not profess to be anything else. If you want to learn of the real wonders of nature, go to the standard works of travel and narratives of scientific research.

At one time we were under the impression that hens without the attention of a male bird would lay just as well and not be so apt to become broody, as those mated. Our records show they will lay just as many eggs alone as if mated, but unmated flocks are not brood-proof by any means. In fact, out of the flock of five pullets without a male, every one became broody and set; while from the pen of four hens, mated, only one became broody. Even the theory that getting hens fat would lead on to broodiness, did not pan out. Our old hens got almost too fat for us, and yet no signs of broodiness, excepting the one stated. —A Few Hens.

Horse Owners! Try

GOMBAULT'S
Caustic Balsam

A Safe Speed and Positive Cure
The Safest, Best BLISTER ever used. Takes the place of all liniments for mild or severe action. Removes all Bunches or Blemishes from Horses and Cattle. SUPERSEDES ALL CAUTERY OR FIRING. Impossible to produce scar or blemish. Every bottle sold is warranted to give satisfaction. Price \$1.50 per bottle. Sold by druggists, or sent by express, charges paid, with full directions for its use. Send for descriptive circulars. THE LAWRENCE-WILLIAMS CO., Cleveland, O.

NIAGARA FARM'S BIG OFFER 1896 HATCH.

White Wyandottes, White Leghorns, L. Brahmas, Mammoth Pekin Ducks, our breeders only, \$1 each. March and April hatched Pekin Ducks, the best breeders for \$38, \$1 each. Prairie State Turkeys, new 1896 model, only \$35 each. Also all the best supplies in general. Try us and be convinced. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y.

ORR'S CLEAR GRIT.

Standard for Quality. Used by millions with satisfaction. Ill. cat. and price list free. Orr's Poultry Yards, Orr's Mills, N. Y. Box 1.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT

All who use it are amazed at its power and are loud in its praise ever after.

It will cure every ache, every lameness, every soreness, everywhere; either Internal or External. It produces a permanent increase of vital activity in the parts, and by its electric energy excites the organs to more vigorous exertion, thus giving them the power to throw off, prevent and cure disease. There is not a medicine in use today which possesses the confidence of the public to so great an extent. The best evidence of its extraordinary value is the fact that in the state where it was originated more than eighty years ago it is still the leading family medicine. The sale there is steadily increasing. Its special province is the treatment of inflammation. Inflammation is an unsound condition of any part of the body, manifested outwardly by redness, swelling and heat; inwardly by congestion of the blood vessels and growth of unsound tissue, causing irritation, pain and disease. A majority of the diseases of mankind begin with or are accompanied by inflammation. It is unequalled. It is the best. It is the oldest.

It is the original. It is unlike any other. It is superior to all others. It is the great vital and muscle nerve. It is for Internal as much as External use. It is used and fully endorsed by all athletes. It is a soothing, healing, penetrating Anodyne. It is what every mother should have in the house. It is loved by suffering children when dropped on sugar. It is safe, soothing, satisfying, so say sick, sensitive sufferers. It is used and recommended by many physicians everywhere. It is the Universal Household Remedy from infancy to old age. It is a sure way to trust that which has satisfied generations after generation. It is made from the favorite prescription of a good old family physician. It is marvelous how many ailments it will quickly relieve, heal and cure. It is more than eighty years since it was originated. In that time it has stood upon its own intrinsic worth, merit and excellence.

Do not forget the very important and useful fact that it is strictly for family use. Every mother should have it in the house, to relieve and cure the many common troubles which will occur in every family as long as there are women. For croup, coughs, cramps, colic, etc., it is the sovereign remedy always ready to use.

Go to the Universal Household Remedy from infancy to old age. It is a sure way to trust that which has satisfied generations after generation. It is made from the favorite prescription of a good old family physician. It is marvelous how many ailments it will quickly relieve, heal and cure. It is more than eighty years since it was originated. In that time it has stood upon its own intrinsic worth, merit and excellence.

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Is It a Mystery?

The case we are about to cite can not be a "mental impression," as the yards in which these dogs are confined are so arranged and constructed that they never see another dog unless it is brought into their yards. Adirondack Cocker Kennels' black Cocker Spaniel bitch "Ritta," a daughter of champion "Black Duke" out of "Woodland Jude," (as well known a pair as there is in America), was bred to O. B. Harks' black dog, "Tony Joe," by "Jimmie II.," out of a black "Obo" bitch. (I quote these well known dogs, so that those readers who are at all posted on Cocker and Cocker pedigrees may know they are all blacks, and from the most famous families). The result of the union was three black pups, two red pups and two white pups. They are all doing finely, and are typical Cocker pups. Black Cockers will occasionally breed reds, and reds breed blacks, but how about the whites? Should they remain that color they will certainly be a novelty, to say the least. I am of the opinion that this would cause even a Babcock or a Proctor to "scratch his head" and "think two times" to solve the mystery. —"ZIM," in *Poultry Monthly*.

FARM-POULTRY is not a dog paper, but all's fish that comes to our net" when it may have a bearing on topics of interest to poultrymen. The white pups are albinos. Some months ago the writer saw two albinos in a litter of pug pups. Most white fowls originate as albinos, and the fact that the so-called white sports breed remarkably free from color, is a proof of their origin, it being an established fact that albinism is hereditary in an uncommon degree. Numerous instances have been reported where recent white sports of P. Rocks and Wyandottes were bred with the white varieties of those breeds, the progeny showing little tendency to revert to the colors of the grandparents.

Private Scoring.

The *American Poultry Journal* has come out flat-footed in opposition to breeders scoring their own birds, and makes the absurd and astonishing declaration that "there should be professional (?) rulings by recognized judges before a bird's rating is declared."

In other words, a score card by a breeder who has bred a certain variety for years, and knows more about it than the judge who does not breed the same variety, never has bred it — a card given by such a breeder is of no account whatever. And the *Journal* says the fraternity will "sustain it" in the position taken. The *Journal* is mistaken. The "fraternity" of judges may do so, but the sensible breeders will take the common sense and just view, that they have a right to score their own birds, and that score cards given by an experienced breeder are just as honest, just as legitimate, just as valid and just as official as cards given by some man who is not a breeder at all, but who happens to wear the title of judge.

We have long advocated the idea the *Journal* opposes, and have done so in the interest of breeders. The idea of a breeder having to send for a professional judge every time he sells a fowl in order to send an official score card with it, is ridiculous. And now we pointedly ask the question: Are the editors of the *American Poultry Journal* breeders? Are they breeding fowls now? Have they ever bred fowls? We ask this because we have a suspicion that they are mere theorists, and not breeders. No genuine breeder would take such an erroneous position — no experienced breeder would maintain that he absolutely knew so little of the variety of fowls he had been breeding for years that he was unable to send out score cards with them, but that he had to call in some man who never bred the variety in question to fix up score cards for him.

According to the *Journal* a breeder must "compete with others in shows," and submit his birds "to professional examination" before he has any right "to claim that he has score cards on his birds."

We take issue with all such nonsense, and stand by the breeder. We are a breeder, and are with our fowls early and late, and we profess to know more about the variety we breed than any judge in the land. And we believe that all breeders who make a specialty of one breed are intelligent enough to give

honest and correct score cards with the fowls they sell if cards are demanded. And such cards should be considered "official" without any red-tape humbuggery. "Professional rulings" may be all right in the show room, but outside, on the farm or in the breeders' yards, the breeder is supreme ruler and judge, and, if he is not capable, then let him call in the judge to do what he ought to be fitted to do — score his own birds.

We hope to see the time in poultry culture when the "professional" judge business will be done away with entirely, as it has got to be too professionally professional for the good of the industry.

We hope to see the time when associations will at each meeting elect one or more judges from among their own members to judge the birds at their next annual show, selecting different breeders each year, if possible. Then judging will be a labor of love, and not a rambling, scrambling, commercial transaction.

Breeders, you are intelligent men and women. Qualify yourselves to give score cards with your own birds, and give them if wanted. No few men have any right to have a monopoly of the score card business. And no man or men, in this free land, has any authority to say to a breeder, "Your score card is not good, because it is not 'professional,' because it has not got the word 'judge' tacked on to it." — J. H. DAVIS, in *Fanciers' Review*.

A Common Mistake.

I could never understand the motive which any one who has once kept thoroughbred poultry of any kind should have in attempting to cross with another breed.

Out of the millions of cross bred and mongrel chickens raised each year in this country, probably not a half-dozen have ever been worth perpetuating, and the list might be reduced to two as the only ones that have ever attained any popularity — the Plymouth Rocks and the Wyandottes.

In each of these every cross that was made was made by intelligent and experienced breeders, who having a definite idea of what they desired, carefully considered not only the breeds to be used but the distinct strain of the breed. And having attained near their ideal in form and feather, it yet took years more of as careful inbreeding and of weeding out of the poorer specimens and all that showed a tendency to revert to some one of the original breeds, to fix the type so that it could be relied upon as fixed to breed true in form, size and feather.

I am aware that there is a belief or superstition among poultry keepers that half-breeds are more prolific in eggs than thoroughbred fowl, especially when one of the breeds used in the cross was a Leghorn; but many years of experience has led me to doubt it. — "AMES," in *N. E. Farmer*.

How to Make 'Dobies.

In the June issue of the *Journal* appeared the query of one of our readers, "Can you tell me how to make 'dobies'?" In this article we shall endeavor to give the information that was promised. Adobe brick, commonly called 'dobies, make splendid material for building poultry houses, and in fact, dwellings for the human family too.

Almost any kind of soil will make adobe bricks, provided plenty of chopped straw is mixed with it. The very best quality of adobies is made from sticky, clayey soil, which will make good and solid bricks without using straw. To prepare the mud, grind the soil as finely as possible, make a hole in the ground six or eight inches deep, in which to mix the ingredients — earth, straw and water, and stir well. This mixing and stirring is hard work, as when ready for the moulds the mud should be thick enough not to flatten out. After the mud is prepared it is put into moulds to give it shape, and then turned out on the ground to dry in the sun. The moulds should be made of inch stuff, planed smooth on the inside, the most convenient size being sixteen inches long, eight inches wide, and about four inches deep. Before filling with mud, the moulds should be wet, and the inside well sprinkled with sand. The 'dobies should be turned out of the moulds immediately onto clean smooth ground. They should be turned

as soon as the upper side becomes hard, and frequently afterwards. There is danger of cracking if the turning process is not well attended to. As soon as the 'dobies are thoroughly dry, they should be stacked up, and a good waterproof covering put over the top of the pile. The best time of year for doing the work is the latter part of September and through the month of October. Where the water supply is handy, the cost of making one thousand 'dobies will be in the neighborhood of seven dollars; the expense of manufacture varies, being governed by the convenience of obtaining the ingredients.

To build a house, frames should be made for doors and windows, eight-inch plank two inches thick being good material to use for this purpose. The 'dobies are laid in the wall as the brick layer lays his brick; mud, similar to that used in making the 'dobies, being used in the place of mortar. A roof for the house can be very cheaply made by laying on poles close together, which should be well covered with willow brush, weeds, or something that will hold the earth that is then put on for a top covering about eight inches deep, from falling through the cracks between the poles. The eaves should be wide, and poles or six-inch boards should be placed around the edges of the roof to keep the earth from rolling off. Such a poultry house can be whitewashed inside and easily kept free from vermin. It will last for several lifetimes if the roof is never allowed to leak, and is very comfortable for the poultry, being warm in winter and very pleasantly cool during the hot summer days, when the mercury in the thermometer is hovering around the 100 degree mark, and when poultry in frame and shingle roofed houses will be suffering greatly from the heat, if no other shade is provided. A 'dobie house makes a good incubator room, and the very best kind of a brooder house. — *Poultry and Farm Journal*.

Standard Revision.

We purposely set an early date for the publication of replies to the invitation to our readers to use our columns to express their opinions on Standard revision, for this reason: we wished to see just how great an interest had been taken in this question by the general reader, how many had previously given the matter sufficient thought to have a well defined opinion ready to give extempore. We admit that we are utterly in the dark on that point.

Had our object been to present the most readable symposium on Standard revision, we would have asked special articles from contributors known to represent different opinions on the questions at issue. But as the opinions of prominent writers are well known to all who follow the questions of the day in the poultry press, we preferred to call for voluntary contributions. To us the number of replies received from people who rarely or never contribute will have a much greater significance than the nature of the opinions expressed.

Remedy for Bedbugs.

Mr. Editor: For the benefit of W. H. T., and all others who are troubled with bedbugs, mites, or any other blood sucking vermin, I have found a sovereign remedy. It is this: Have your roosts eighteen inches from any side of the house. Fasten your roosts to cross pieces with short legs. Have each leg stand in any old tin can, such as a salmon steak can or a tomato can. If you use a tomato can shear off the top so that the can will be only three inches high; now fill these cans with kerosene oil, and defy all blood sucking vermin. The legs must of course stand in the center of the can, so that the vermin cannot reach from the top of the can to the legs. For very light roosts it would be advisable after the legs are in position in the can to mix up some plaster of paris in water and pour about two inches in each can. After it sets, pour in the oil. This will keep the cans from moving against the legs.

STEPHEN C. BROWN.

Cochituate, Mass.

Mr. Editor:—I noticed in FARM-POULTRY you would like an effective cure for bedbugs. I got rid of them by mixing turpentine in whitewash, and whitewashing the whole

chicken house inside as well as out. If the chicken house should be painted on the outside I would paint it over with turpentine, and in the nest boxes sprinkle carbolic acid under the straw. I did this in the spring and it killed them all, because they never had a chance to breed; but I would advise that it be done at once now, and again in the month of March.

Mrs. A. T. W.

St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. Editor:—This is a good remedy for bed bugs:—W. H. T., Litchfield: Half-pint each of turpentine, ammonia and kerosene with four ounces of camphor. Dissolve the camphor in the turpentine, then add the other; apply with a brush freely. F. B. Hawthorne, N. J.

"Sanitas"

is an absolutely non-poisonous disinfectant, and is necessary to produce healthy birds. "Sanitas" disinfecting powder should be freely sprinkled in the yards and used as a whitewash. It destroys lice and prevents disease.

"How to Disinfect," a book sent free to all poultrymen.

The American & Continental "Sanitas" Co. Ltd.
636 to 642 West 55th St., New York City.

MAPLE FARM DUCK YARDS.

The largest and best birds on this continent. More than 1500 breeding birds for sale, at reasonable prices. Will furnish eggs in season from our best yards, and guarantee their fertility. Send for circular.

JAS. RANKIN,
So. Easton, Mass.



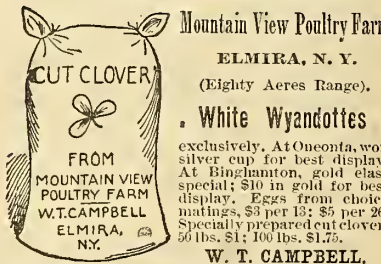
No Expense For Threshing.

There is a simple little machine on the market, which can be had for \$1.—, with farm right to use it. This tool was named "Hail," but if it is called "hurricane," the work will be easier. The farmer's time is nothing, and after threshing is finished, he can buy a little "pocket whirling" and mud fence. Of course the progressive farmer will not try to compete with steam, either in threshing or fence building. He uses the PAGE.

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

1880—DANIELS' BLACK JAVAS—1897
and Rose Comb White Leghorns won at the great Boston show; also at all the state and county fairs, scoring as high as 96. Large in size, fine in shape, and great layers. 17 years a breeder. Send for circular. Eggs, \$2 per 15.
H. B. DANIELS, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

SEA SHELLS best grade fine ground for poultry feed. Best and cheapest shells known. \$1.25 bu.—5 bu. at \$1.00. Discount in quantity. Samples, 2 cents.
F. P. KNOWLES, Guilford, Conn.



500 MAMMOTH PEKIN DUCKS FOR BREEDERS
Cream of over 5000 April and May hatched ducks. Also 300 this year's breeders. All for only \$1 each.
NIAGARA FARM, Ransomville, N. Y.

AGENTS' OUTFIT FREE. No Capital Needed.
Weekly sales pay big money.
As low as \$24.00. BICYCLE
Fully guaranteed. Shipped anywhere on approval, direct from our factory.
ALPINE CYCLE CO., Dept. 37, Cincinnati, O.

Shows to Occur.

Secretaries of Show Associations please note errors or omissions, and forward corrections.—ED.]

New England States.

Aug. 16-21, '97. Portland, Me. E. F. Rowell, Sec'y.
Sept. 28-30, '97. Brattleboro, Vt.
Nov. 20-Dec. 3, '97. Amesbury, Mass.
Dec. 1-4, '97. Fall River, Mass. H. S. Willard, Sec'y.
Dec. 8-11, '97. Pawtucket, R. I. H. S. Babcock, Sec'y.
Dec. 8-11, '97. Danbury, Conn. F. Bowman, Sec'y.
Dec. 14-17, '97. Marlboro, Mass. W. H. Pyne, Sec'y.
Dec. 15-18, '97. New London, Conn. C. B. Smith, Sec'y.
Dec. 22-24, '97. Seymour, Conn. H. D. Hendrick, Sec'y.
Dec. 28-30, '97. Haverhill, Mass. George H. Greenman, Sec'y.
Dec. 29-Jan. 1, '98. New Haven, Conn. N. D. Forbes, Sec'y.
Jan. 3-8, '98. Ware, Mass. W. H. Rivers, Sec'y.
Jan. 3-8, '98. Peabody, Mass. A. W. Tyler, Sec'y.
Jan. 13-14, '98. Hartford, Conn. G. P. Merritt, Sec'y.
Jan. 11-13, '98. Gloucester, Mass. F. H. Abbott, Sec'y.
Jan. 18-22, '98. Boston, Mass. A. R. Sharp, Sec'y.
Jan. 18-22, '98. Ansonia, Conn. G. A. Hill, Sec'y.

Middle States.

Aug. 17-20, '97. Mt. Gretna, Pa. M. R. Blanch, Sec'y.
Aug. 23-28, '97. Syracuse, N. Y. Jas. P. Doelarty, Sec'y.
Sept. 14-17, '97. Middletown, N. Y. D. Lincoln, Sec'y.
Oct. 24-27, '97. Johnstown, N. Y. H. J. Quillitt, Sec'y.
Nov. 29-Dec. 2, '97. Seneca Falls, N. Y. Fred Hubel, Sec'y.
Dec. 14-17, '97. Oneonta, N. Y. A. J. Regea, Sec'y.
Dec. 14-17, '97. Toms River, Pa. C. M. Hayes, Sec'y.
Dec. 15-18, '97. West Chester, Pa. F. D. Reid, Sec'y.
Dec. 27, '97-Jan. 1, '98. Wilkes Barre, Pa. E. S. Kirkham, Sec'y.
Dec. 28, '97-Jan. 1, '98. Erie, Pa. A. E. Bithorn, Sec'y.
Jan. 2-8, '98. Buffalo, N. Y. E. C. Pense, Sec'y.
Jan. 10-15, '98. Rochester, N. Y. J. J. Beveridge, Sec'y.
Jan. 17-22, '98. Elmira, N. Y.

Mid-West States.

Nov. 22-26, '97. Ashley, O. E. O. Sipe, Sec'y.
Nov. 29-31, '97. Jackson, Ill.
Dec. 1-6, '97. Mankato, O. L. Dorsch, Sec'y.
Dec. 6-12, '97. Cleveland, O. F. R. Hunt, Sec'y.
Dec. 7-11, '97. Prophetstown, Ill. W. W. Moyer, Sec'y.
Dec. 14-16, '97. Centerville, Ill. Samuel Eyre, Sec'y.
Dec. 14-17, '97. Bolleville, Ill.
Dec. 14-18, '97. Dixon, Ill. F. W. Fargo, Sec'y.
Dec. 15-21, '97. Bloomington, Ill. J. D. Shipley, Sec'y.
Dec. 20-23, '97. Princeton, Ill. A. C. Best, Sec'y.
Dec. 20-23, '97. Lansing, Mich. C. H. Crane, Sec'y.
Dec. 20-23, '97. Sargis, Mich.
Dec. 20-23, '97. Sandusky, O.
Dec. 21-24, '97. Sandusky, O. E. G. Rogers, Sec'y.
Dec. 21-24, '97. Palmyra, Ill. S. A. Bizz, Sec'y.
Dec. 21-24, '97. Lincoln, Ill. F. A. Hickman, Sec'y.
Dec. 22-26, '97. Ashland, O. H. A. Mykraitz, Sec'y.
Dec. 28, '97-Jan. 1, '98. Springfield, O. W. H. Holmes, Sec'y.
Dec. 29, '97-Jan. 1, '98. Mansfield, O. C. W. Eiz, Sec'y.
Jan. 3-7, '98. Geneseo, Ill. W. G. Warnock, Sec'y.
Jan. 9-8, '98. Detroit, Mich. F. W. McKenzie, Sec'y.
Jan. 4-7, '98. Canton, O. Wm. Friedman, Sec'y.
Jan. 4-8, '98. Peoria, Ill. T. A. Godel, Sec'y.
Jan. 4-8, '98. Peoria, Ill. Dr. J. Oglesby Gable, Sec'y.
Jan. 10-14, '98. Illinois State Show.
Jan. 11-15, '98. Indianapolis, Ind. T. W. Pottage, Sec'y.
Jan. 10-15, '98. Rockford, Ill. A. H. Carrier, Sec'y.
Jan. 11-15, '98. Washington, C. H. O. W. R. Dalby, Sec'y.
Jan. 19-24, '98. Xenia, O. J. H. Smith, Sec'y.
Jan. 24-27, '98. Bay City, Mich.
Jan. 25-29, '98. Chicago, Ill. C. S. Weaver, Sec'y.
Jan. 26-29, '98. Lisbon, O.
Jan. 31-Feb. 3, '98. Henry, Ill. A. G. Humphrey, Sec'y.
Feb. 1-5, '98. Binnion, O. D. J. Kohli, Sec'y.

Central West States.

Nov. 11-13, '97. Trenton, Mo.
Nov. 22-27, '97. Malvern, Ia. J. E. Thompson, Sec'y.
Nov. 24-26, '97. Mt. Airy, Iowa. W. E. Enleigh, Sec'y.
Nov. 25-27, '97. Independence, Mo. Wm. Bostian, Sec'y.
Nov. 29-Dec. 3, '97. Lebanon, Mo. Geo. H. Hinds, Sec'y.
Nov. 30-Dec. 3, '97. Auburn, Neb. L. L. Alspangh, Sec'y.
Nov. 30-Dec. 4, '97. Council Bluffs, Ia.
Dec. 1-4, '97. Dubuque, Ia.
Dec. 1-4, '97. Emporia, Kans.
Dec. 2-4, '97. Excelsior Springs, Mo. C. H. Copinger, Sec'y.
Dec. 7-10, '97. Parsons, Kans. J. B. Alexander, Sec'y.
Dec. 7-11, '97. Sedgewick, Kans. W. M. Congdon, Sec'y.
Dec. 7-11, '97. Lexington, Mo.
Dec. 8-12, '97. Paola, Kans. E. E. Johnson, Sec'y.
Dec. 13-15, '97. Wichita, Kans.
Dec. 13-18, '97. St. Louis, Mo. J. H. Ahrens, Sec'y.
Dec. 14-17, '97. Clinton, Mo. W. H. Talbert, Sec'y.
Dec. 14-18, '97. Winona, Minn.
Dec. 14-21, '97. Topeka, Kans. M. F. Hauke, Sec'y.
Dec. 20-24, '97. Mason City, Ia.
Dec. 23-30, '97. Kansas City, Mo. F. M. Stutz, Sec'y.

Dec. 30, '97-Jan. 4, '98. Ottawa, Kans. Mrs. D. F. Rorsir, Sec'y.
Jan. 2-5, '98. Duluth, Minn.
Jan. 4-7, '98. Pueblo, Colo. W. A. Raspi, Sec'y.
Jan. 10-15, '98. Cedar Rapids, Ia. Chas. H. Playter, Sec'y.
Jan. 10-15, '98. Denver, Colo.
Jan. 17-20, '98. Davenport, Ia. J. B. Voss, Sec'y.
Jan. 18-22, '98. Fremont, Nebr.
Jan. 18-22, '98. Salt Lake City, Utah.

Southern States.

Oct. 12-15, '97. Hagerstown, Md. John L. Cost, Sup't.
Nov. 23, '97. Hamilton, Va. R. J. N. Reid, Sec'y.
Dec. 1-6, '97. Houston, Tex.
Dec. 1-4, '97. Little Rock, Ark. W. H. Westbrook, Sec'y.
Dec. 7-10, '97. Dallas, Tex. H. M. Skelton, Sec'y.
Dec. 7-10, '97. Shelbyville, Ky.
Dec. 14-18, '97. Austin, Tex.
Dec. 28-30, '97. Waco, Tex.
Dec. 28-31, '97. Owensboro, Ky.
Jan. 3-6, '98. Guthrie, Okla.
Jan. 10-15, '98. Louisville, Ky. J. R. Mount, Sec'y.
Jan. 11-15, '98. Nashville, Tenn. J. M. Hopkins, Sec'y.
Jan. 12-14, '98. Charlotte, N. C. W. M. Barringer, Sec'y.
Jan. 20-24, '98. Fayetteville, Ark.
Feb. 1-5, '98. Washington, D. C. Geo. E. Howard, Sec'y.

Pacific Coast.

Nov. 22-27, '97. San Jose, Calif. Chas. R. Barker, Sec'y.
Dec. 1-5, '97. Sacramento, Calif. Matt. Coffey, Sec'y.
Dec. 9-14, '97. Oakland, Calif. Frank Leed, 417 Sacramento St. San Francisco, Sec'y.
Dec. 26-30, '97. Tacoma, Wash. Stephen Holbrook, Sec'y.
Jan. 10-16, '98. Los Angeles, Calif. H. W. Krueker, Sec'y.
Jan. 11-15, '98. Spokane, Wash.
Jan. 17-22, '98. Seattle, Wash.
Jan. 24-28, '98. Phoenix, Ariz.

Canada.

Aug. 30-Sept. 11, '97. Toronto, Can. H. J. Hill, Sec'y.

A Crying Evil.

An Experienced Attendant Offers Some Advice to Promoters of Poultry Shows.

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

I have been connected with various poultry shows in this country for the last ten years, and before coming to America I was for twenty-five years connected with the largest shows in England. In England it is specially mentioned in the premium list of every show that all eggs laid during the show will be destroyed. This rule is strictly adhered to. In my position at these shows I was generally the attendant appointed to collect all eggs.

At some shows I was instructed to break them and throw them away; at others I was provided with a big needle with which to destroy their vitality—and they were afterwards sent to public hospitals. At shows where incubators were in operation they were boiled hard and given to the chicks hatched during the show. An egg was never handled except by myself.

In this country such a rule is hardly ever made. Omitting it is a great disadvantage. Many times fanciers have told me at shows that they never exhibited for this very reason—and I do not wonder at it. At our shows here every man employed, feeders, sweepers, and even exhibitors and their assistants collect eggs—and in most cases the paid hands sell them. At many shows I have been offered money for certain eggs; also for all the eggs I could collect. I never acceded to such offers. I always mentioned to would-be buyers that an experienced exhibitor would take away the cock ten days before sending to the show, and hence the eggs laid during the show would be infertile. I was then asked to collect only those out of the breeding yards, as the cocks were there with the hens. When I explained that it was necessary for the cock to be with the hens for some days before the eggs would again be fertile, they would go to some other attendant, and I think they found some with less knowledge and less conscience.

One of the cleaners at a late show told me he had made thirteen dollars at a show selling eggs. They sold so well that he went to a farmer he knew and bought eggs at twenty-five cents a dozen and sold them for sixty. That paid well.

The worst case of all was at a state show where every man in connection with the show was instructed to collect all eggs, mark them with the number of the pen, and take them to the office. At the close of the show I learned through a man who was the poultryman of one of the officials, that he took all those eggs home and hatched them in an incubator for his employer; and that at that very show

there were not less than fourteen winners of first and second prizes that had been obtained in the same way.

What I have said above ought to interest the breeders and the promoters of shows; and the latter ought not to forget to insert in their premium list that one person only would handle eggs laid during the show, and that all eggs would be destroyed.

A. V. MEERSCH.

Wanted.—An Editor.

"Mr. J. H. Davis, who lives at Hapeville, Ga., is a very prolific writer, and we have always watched his articles closely. One point in his favor is that he usually gets at the facts, and when he writes an article there will be no flaws in it."

"Now if J. H. Davis, of Hapeville, Ga., had the charge of FARM-POULTRY!" —Poultry Keeper.

Better secure his services for the Poultry Keeper, Mr. Jacobs. That paper needs an editor.

The Boston Show.

The dates for the Boston show will be Jan. 18-22, '98. The show will be held as heretofore in the Mechanics Building. For particulars, address the secretary, Arthur R. Sharp, Taunton, Mass.

Changes in the Standard.

The revision committee of the American Poultry Association will probably meet during the last week in August. The time and place are not yet definitely fixed. Full particulars will be published as soon as possible. Readers of FARM-POULTRY who wish to offer suggestions to this committee should send them to the chairman, Arthur R. Sharp, Taunton, Mass., or to any member of the committee. The other members are: Philander Williams, Taunton, Mass.; James Forsyth, Owego, N. Y.; G. O. Brown, Baltimore, Md.; H. S. Babcock, Providence, R. I.; J. Y. Bicknell, Buffalo, N. Y.; B. N. Pierce, Indianapolis, Ind.; J. H. Drevenstedt, Johnstown, N. Y.; F. B. Zimmer, Gloversville, N. Y.; Sharp Butterfield, Windsor, Ont., Can.; A. F. Pierce, Winchester, N. H.; Theo. Hewes, Trenton, Mo.; T. F. McGrew, New York City; H. A. Bridge, Columbus, O.; J. F. Crangle, Fishers Island, N. Y.

Suggestions to be of use to the committee should be plainly written and to the point. Those who are not satisfied with the requirements of the present Standard should bear in mind that now is the time to act. Don't leave it to someone else to make suggestions concerning the changes you desire. In that way things go undone. After the revision is accomplished and a man finds that the change he wished was perhaps, not even suggested, he can blame himself, not the committee.

MARKET REVIEW.

Eggs.—The hot weather continues to be against the egg market, with a good deal of stock being injured by long keeping, and shrieking badly. There is a good deal of complaint of the poor quality of the supply coming.

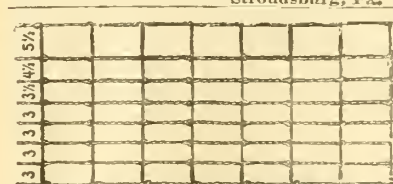
It is hard to find a lot of western good enough to command over 11 cents. Most sales are at 10 to 11 cents, with an occasional fancy lot higher. Choice fresh eastern run up to 15 cents; but a large portion of the eastern were worth no more than western. The stock in cold storage on Saturday was 114,312 cases, against 14,205 cases same time last year.

Poultry.—All kinds of poultry are dull, and feed poultry is very dull. New England chickens are quoted at 16¢@18¢; fowls 11¢@12¢; iceed fowls 7¢@9¢. Western feed turkeys, 9¢@10¢. Ducks 12¢@14¢. Geese 14¢@16¢.

SEND 10C. For cut and full directions for making the Dime Poultry Drinking Fountain. G. H. GUY, 552 Center St., Brockton, Mass.

Additional Capital Wanted.

On one of the largest and best equipped duck farms in the country, the Dime Poultry Drinking Fountain, a capacity of 25,000 ducks per year. Would sell a half interest, or perhaps the whole. WM. H. TRUSLOW, Stroudsburg, Pa.



FIELD AND HOG FENCE WIRE. All horizontal lines are cables; not affected by heat and cold; adjusts itself to hilly ground without buckling. Built for service and durability. Write for full information. UNION FENCE CO., DeKaib, Ill.

BUCKS County or U. I. Red yearling hens \$1 ea. W. Wagon, \$12 ea. GEO. L. CHASE, Uxbridge, Mass.

FRUIT AND POULTRY FARM, for sale, 15 acres; 10 acres blackberries, etc.; 3 room house, new barn and poultry house. Horse, cow, fowls, carriage, wagon, and farm tools. \$1,650; half cash. W. BRIDGEWORTH, Hammononton, N. J.

NETTING. SILVER FINISH. For Poultry only one-third cent per sq. ft., and liberal discounts on large orders. Stamp for 100 page list, and samples.

RICHARD H. YOUNG, Lilac Hedge, Westboro, Mass.

For the only perfect Incubator made. Freight prepaid to your nearest Railroad station or Steamer landing. The finest INCUBATOR CATALOGUE ever issued mailed free if you write and mention this paper. PETALUMA INCUBATOR CO., Petaluma, Cal.

POULTRY BOOK FREE.

Containing 140 pages of practical information on poultry raising, with year's subscription to the WESTERN POULTRY REVIEW, a 16 to 24 page paper devoted to all branches of poultry industry, only 25 cents; four months trial free, sample free. Cheapest and best advertising medium. Send 25 cts. (silver) and get book and paper one year. WESTERN POULTRY REVIEW, Shannon City, Iowa.

FLOWER CITY INCUBATORS AND BROODERS.

are as good as any. All machines warranted. Send 10 cts. for large 142 page Catalogue and special low price list. Address Flower City Incubator Co., Rochester, N. Y. Mention Farm-Poultry.

If at First you don't Succeed, try a Buckeye.

Sold on 30 days trial or for cash, the Bantam \$5 self-regulating 54 egg size (18 chicks from 50 eggs). Invincible Hatcher, 100 egg 12¢, \$10. Self-regulating, 60 egg 12¢, \$10. BUCKEYE INCUBATOR Co., Springfield, O.

The Favorite Collection of Songs.

128 Pages. Price \$1.00.

This list of 70 standard and favorite pieces of music has been selected with great care to please every musical taste, as the following list of titles and composers will show:

A Year Ago.....	W. F. Rockstro
All Among the Summer Trees.....	J. L. Hutten
As I'd Nothing Else to Do.....	Joseph L. Gilbert
Across the Sea.....	Marie Gaborie
Bring Back Thy Sunshine.....	Mary Flanagan
Blue Eyes.....	James Mollay
Coquetry.....	Fritz Medford
Come to the Sunset Tree.....	Mrs. Hemans
Dream Faces.....	W. M. Hutchinson
Douglas I Tender and True.....	Lady John Scott
Dreaming of Home.....	Elizabeth Philip
Down Below the Waving Tides.....	E. L. Bennie
Faded Leaves.....	Paul Heurion
Forget Me Not.....	Wilhelm Ganz
"Five O'Clock in the Morning".....	Claribel
Girl Met On the Farm (The).....	J. L. Hutten
Golden Years Are Fleeting.....	Louis Deht
Goodnight.....	Nottowm in "Martha"
Hour of Rest (The).....	Joseph L. Gilbert
Happy Little Country Girl.....	Robert
How Will He Ever Catch Them?.....	Comic. W. Taubert
He Is An Englishman.....	Sir Arthur Sullivan
I Whistle and Wait for Katie.....	Michael Nolan
I Really Don't Think I Shall Marry.....	Anon
Just Touch The Harp Gently.....	Chas. Blumhain
Jenny in The Orchard.....	Hamilton Aide
Jack's Farewell.....	James L. Mollay
Kate, Poor Kate—Comic.....	Kate Boyle
Kate's Letter.....	Lady John Scott
Little Annie Rooney.....	Michael Nolan
Little Fisher-Maiden (The).....	Ludolph Wadmann
Let Music Break on This Blest Morn.....	Christmas Carol
Little Butter Cups' Song.....	Sir Arthur Sullivan
Love's Soft Greeting.....	N. L. Gilbert
Love That Slumbers.....	Milton Wellings
Mary and John, or the Lovers Quarrel.....	Osvald Stoll
Many Years Ago.....	Sir Arthur Sullivan
Mother Watch the Little Feet.....	Nancy Lee
Nancy Lee.....	Stephen Adams
Oh! You Pretty Blue Eyed Witch.....	W. F. Taylor
Old Garden Gate (The).....	W. F. Taylor, Jr
Old Cottage Clock (The).....	Jos. L. Mollay
Somebody.....	J. A. McFarren
Playmates.....	Edmund Forman
Polly.....	James L. Mollay
Ruth and I.....	M. W. Balfe
Strangers Yet.....	Claribel
Sailing.....	Godfrey Marks
Speak To Me.....	Fabio Campana
Speak Gently.....	W. F. Wrighton
That Is Love.....	Fritz Medford
The Sweetest Tune.....	Franz Abt
Think of Me No More.....	G. Lanley
The Boy I Love.....	Sol. Smith Russell
Two Little Girls.....	Edmund Forman
The Dear Old Songs of Home.....	Franz Abt
The Passing Bell.....	Claribel
The Country Cousin—Comic.....	Vincent J. Seta
There's a Silver Lining to Every Cloud.....	Edmund Forman
Tell Me Truly.....	Jos. L. Mollay
When Soft Eyes Smile.....	Jos. L. Mollay
Why Tarry My Love.....	T. Welch
When the Twilight Gathers In.....	J. L. Mollay
Will Your Heart Respond to Mine?.....	A. D. Sullivan
When I View The Mother Holding.....	Anon
Watchman, What of The Night.....	Ch. Gounod
Walt! Walt! Walt!.....	Lock Sharp
Won't You Tell Me Why Bohol.....	Claribel
Whisper in The Twilight.....	Anthony Niek

This book is full sheet music size, contains 128 pages, printed on beautiful cream tinted paper, with sewed binding and a large open flat on the music rack. It has a beautiful and appropriate cover, designed by Elmer Green, and printed in the finest manner. Its appearance attracts the eye and its contents appeal to every musician's taste. Publishers' price \$1.00 per copy. While the edition lasts 29 cents per copy, our price is 29 cents postpaid.

Send cash or two cent stamps. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass.

FARM-POULTRY

Semi-Monthly.

PUBLISHED

The 1st and 15th of each month

BY

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

A. F. HUNTER, Editor.

Price, One Dollar per year, in Advance.

Six months 50 Cents.

Single Copies Five Cents.

One Sample Free.

Add for postage to foreign countries, 48 Cents extra to yearly, and 24 Cents to six months subscription rate.

Remit by P. O. or Express money order, cash or postage stamps, in registered letter.

Address all letters, and make all payments payable to I. S. JOHNSON & CO.,

22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

Green Wrapper

When You Receive FARM-POULTRY in a Green Wrapper your subscription ends with that issue. Therefore, please send cash \$1.00 to renew—for—

We Shall Always Stop the Paper when the time for which it is paid has expired; so that to avoid missing numbers all should renew promptly.

Get a Couple of Neighbors to club with you, and we will send the paper to the three parties a full year all for \$2.50, cash or stamps, if all sent at one time.

Change in Address—When ordering a change in the address, subscribers should be sure to give their former as well as their present address, or we cannot make the change; our list is kept by towns first.

Canvassers Wanted in every town to solicit subscriptions. Terms sent on application. Liberal commission paid in cash. Send for our Terms to Agents.

THE ADVERTISING RATE

Is 30c. per Agate Line Each Issue.

Fourteen Lines in every Inch of single column space. Seven average Words make one line.

DISCOUNTS FROM ABOVE RATE depend entirely upon the amount of space used by an advertiser within a stated time. Send for Rate Card.

FORMS CLOSE.—Ads. must be received by the 5th and 20th of the month to insure insertion in the issues of the 15th or 1st, respectively.

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Entered at the Post-Office

at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter.

EDITORIAL.

FARM-POULTRY for August 15th will contain:

The replies to the request in our issue of July 15 for an expression of opinions on STANDARD REVISION. To measure the interest we set an early date for the publication of these replies. Watch for the result!

"TWO OF THE VETERANS" (Tegetmeier and Weir) by Mr. Hunter, with likeness and autograph of Harrison Weir.

"A GREAT DUCK TOWN," the report of a visit to Aylesbury, Eng., will be of value to all duck breeders; and,

"EGGS IN BELGIUM," of value to everyone.

"HOW TO PLAN, AND HOW TO CONDUCT AN EXPERIMENT," will offer some suggestions to those interested in methods of investigation.

Let Us Reason Together.

More than once of late has reference been made on this page to the mutual relations of publishers, subscribers, advertisers and editors. Yet the subject is by no means exhausted, and we wish in this issue to present some phases of it in the plainest language at our command.

We begin with the proposition that every one in any way concerned in the paper is looking after his own interests. The publishers have established and maintain it with a view to the profit to be derived from a journal of its scope popularly conducted. They are making it the leader in its class solely because on that basis it will pay best. The editor occupies his position because he finds it profitable to put his experience and ability at the disposal of the publishers for the benefit of the subscribers. This is not saying that publishers and editor do not derive gratification from doing a useful work well, but that with both the primary object is personal gain; remove this and they discontinue their work. So, with the subscribers and advertisers: each is looking to his own interests and his own profit. The motive which actuates each and all is self-interest—the intelligent self-interest which sees its own dependence on the interests of others, and that it serves itself best when it serves others best.

Now here we have four distinct interests, each to some degree dependent on all the others, yet incapable of being brought into perfect equilibrium. It is not strange that they sometimes clash, and in such cases one must take precedence over the others. From the business point of view this one must be the interest of the publishers; or, to put it another way, the welfare of the paper. But the welfare of the paper depends first on its serving the interests of its readers. It comes to this, then, that the interests of the subscribers must be considered before all others,—and when they are opposed to any other that other must yield.

For if the interests of the readers are made subordinate to the immediate gain of either publishers or advertisers, the influence of the paper is diminished, its circulation reduced, and the policy which on the surface promised profit to advertisers or publishers brings them loss instead. Taking one thing with another, in the long run the interests of all are best protected by practically ignoring all but those of the subscribers.

It is difficult to make advertisers see this. Nearly always they look at the question narrowly. It seems to them that the interests of the man who pays ten, fifty, or a hundred dollars for advertising space should be of much more importance to the paper than the interests of the man who pays his subscription of one dollar. They do not consider that when interests conflict, it is, from the publishers' standpoint more profitable to please a thousand subscribers paying one dollar each than one advertiser who buys space to the amount of one hundred dollars. More than this, it is necessary that the publisher should in such a case act sometimes in direct opposition to what appears to be the immediate interest of some advertisers, and consider only his subscribers. If this is not done the paper loses subscribers, and thus, finally, loses too, the very advertisers for whom it sacrificed its subscribers and its own interests. By considering the subscribers first one advertiser, or two, or three may be lost; but the rest will be more firmly held, and there will be besides an increased volume of new advertising keeping pace with increasing circulation.

When the subscriber buys the paper he buys with it the results of the wider opportunities for observation afforded its editors; he buys the news of the poultry world, and the opinions of experts on matters pertaining to the industry. Unless the paper furnishes these to him, it has for him no value. It will sometimes happen that the publication of opinions or of news valuable to the subscribers injures the sales of some advertisers. The latter at once exclaim that the paper which takes their money ought to be conducted to serve their interests.

Apart from the fact that the interests of the advertisers are most effectually served by considering first the interests of the subscribers, there is this to be taken into account: It was open to the advertiser to learn the general

policy of the paper before making his contract for space, and to decide for himself whether, in view of that policy, it was likely or possible that the sale of the articles he has to offer in the advertising column would be injuriously affected by matter appearing in the reading columns. Only a marked deviation from its original or usual policy can justly be made ground for complaint that the policy of the paper injures its advertising patrons. As a matter of ordinary business forethought, the advertiser owed it to his own interests to examine into the case, and if he failed to do so; or, if he finds that his judgment erred, he can consistently blame only himself.

Let us look at some of the particular cases where interests conflict.

A certain breed is being developed along lines which are bound to give it extraordinary usefulness and great popularity. As a matter of news, the paper is bound to let this be known. As a question concerning the interests of poultrymen who are subscribers, it is bound to set forth fully every item of interest connected with the development of this breed. Such action on the part of the paper undoubtedly helps this breed and its breeders, and makes the paper appear an active agent in building up the reputation of the one breed at the expense of others. But the agency of the paper is passive rather than active; it records events, does not make them; and when it ceases to faithfully record all that it is for the advantage of its readers to know it leaves itself without even an apology for existing, and soon becomes worthless to all concerned in its welfare.

Or, it may be that for some reason the popularity of a certain breed is on the wane. It will follow without intention or effort of the editor that that breed will be mentioned less frequently and less favorably. The breeders, noticing a falling off in their sales coincident with this state of affairs in the paper, at once suspect and even accuse the paper of deliberately creating a sentiment hostile to that breed and thereby injuring their business. A little reflection and a slight acquaintance with the histories of various paper-boomed breeds ought to show those in such a frame of mind that their suspicions were groundless. That is happening to their breed which has happened, or will at some time happen, to every article of produce or manufacture. The old brands, the old races, the old varieties are supplanted by new ones which are at least thought to be better. Commodities have a life; they begin to be; their existence, long or short, is accompanied by fluctuations; they die.

To the breeders of a dying or a changing breed, that crisis in business is coming which may come in any business, and must come in many. Every sagacious business man sees this crisis always before him as a possible evil to be avoided, or warded off, not by attempting to force the public to take his wares, but by making such changes in his stock that he can give the public what it wants. And so the advertiser who is handling a breed that sells poorly or indifferently well, will consult his own best interests by getting rid of it and turning his attention to one that will sell with the best. Business success has no room for sentiment; no time for crying over spilt milk—and offsets its losses in one place by gains in another.

There is a way in which a paper may be the active agent in bringing about changes of opinion and changes of method which more or less affect returns from advertising. In this it is justified while keeping in view the general interests of its subscribers and the greatest good of the poultry industry as a whole.

We have here in mind, particularly, the attitude of FARM-POULTRY on the utility question. From the date of its first issue until now the policy of the paper has never varied; nor will it vary in the future. The paper was established with the deliberately avowed purpose of making it the representative organ of that element among poultrymen which considers fowls from the profit standpoint; its mission has been, and is, the establishment of industrial poultry breeding on broad and permanent foundations. It was in the power of every man who ever advertised in FARM-POULTRY to learn first the

policy of the paper and to ask himself whether such stock as he had to offer would give satisfaction to its readers when they became buyers. And if it seemed to him that his stock was not such as would be acceptable to the class of buyers to be reached through FARM-POULTRY, two courses were open to him:—either to breed stock that would sell then, or to advertise elsewhere. He cannot expect the publishers of the paper to sacrifice all other interests to what he supposes is his.

The advertisers in a paper ought to be its most careful readers. While as a class their interests are less than the interests of subscribers, their individual interests are manifold greater, and are, moreover, dependent on an exact knowledge of the conditions of the industry. When a man finds the breed he handles becoming less popular he should at once set about learning the reason, and, if possible, remedying it. If it is a matter that cannot be remedied, he must abandon this breed, and stock up with one that will sell better.

If his stock is not selling as well as that of some competitor he ought at once to admit to himself (what any business man of sound judgment would tell him) that the other man either has better stock or is a better salesman. A large part of the poultry breeder's success depends on his ability as a salesman. That is an aspect of the question which not one in ten ever considers.

A says to himself, "My stock is as good as B's, my prices the same. How is it that he sells so much more than I do?" It rarely occurs to him that B has the qualities which make a good salesman, and he has not.

The advertiser who faithfully and observantly reads the poultry papers need never have an unsalable stock on his hands. Studying the changes in the various breeds and in public taste, he will know what to produce, and will never make the mistake of seeking to force on his customers a breed whose day of popularity has departed. The man who breeds only for his own use can afford to consult his own wishes; he who breeds fowls for sale cannot; he must breed what will sell.

No amount of advertising or of favorable editorial mention will induce people to take one breed when they want another and can get that other, or to buy a class of fowls they do not want when fowls they do want are to be procured.

Editorial Correspondence.

The editorial correspondence now appearing in FARM-POULTRY constitutes a new feature in poultry journalism. With its beginning began a new era in this paper's history. While the general policy of the paper remains unchanged, its work for the future will be on a much broader basis than in the past. The rapid advance made in the state of general information on practical poultry topics makes it imperative on this paper, if it is still to lead in its chosen field, to undertake the work which some poultry paper must do for the progressive, practical poultrymen of the country. It was with this object in view that Mr. Hunter's European trip was planned, and interesting and valuable as the editorial correspondence now appearing is to our readers, what is to follow when he returns and has time to fully extend his notes and deliberately outline the scheme of future work in FARM-POULTRY will far exceed it in both these particulars.

Incubators and Brooders.

FARM-POULTRY for Sept. 1st will be largely given to a symposium on "Mistakes People Make With Incubators and Brooders." The articles will be contributed by leading manufacturers, and will make this issue one of the most valuable we have ever sent out. To intending buyers of machines, and to those who are striving to master the details of their successful management, nothing more useful could be offered than this symposium.

Not Just In Our Line.

Someone, who signs himself A. B. C., no address, writes to ask if it is legal for a man to get married here who has a wife living in England. He says he is one of our old subscribers, and as we very much dislike to see any of them in trouble we will inform A. B. C. that such an action would be illegal.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Correspondents who enclose stamps for reply receive immediate answers by mail. When no stamps are enclosed questions which are of general interest and have not recently appeared here are printed with answers in this department. Several correspondents sometimes write at about the same time to ask the same question. Of course only one inquiry is printed. Look for the answer to your question, not for your initials and residence.

Questions Briefly Answered.

[Any of the numbers of FARM-POULTRY referred to below, will be supplied at the rate of five cents each.]

QUOTATION.—(A. W. P., Nashua, N. H.): If you will notice, the article you refer to was clipped from another paper. Write to the editor of that paper (*American Fancier*, Johnstown, N. Y.), for the address of the writer of the article.

POULTRY MONTHLY.—(W. E. G., Taunton, Mass.): The *Poultry Monthly* is published by the Ferris Publishing Co., Albany, N. Y. Subscription price \$1.00 per year; with FARM-POULTRY \$1.75. Your second question will have to wait Mr. Hunter's return.

BUFF WYANDOTTES.—(C. P. G., Providence, R. I.): We have had no experience with the Buff Wyandottes; but have heard them very highly spoken of by persons who have bred them.

PERIOD OF INCUBATION.—(G. F. E., Gastonia, N. C.): Duck and guinea eggs require about the same time to hatch. Duck eggs usually hatch in twenty-eight days. In guinea eggs the time varies from twenty-six to thirty days.

TWO MONTHS RECORD.—(R. H. R., Rhinecliff, N. Y.): The record is a good one for the time covered; but why send us in July a record for February and March? What have the hens been doing since?

CHICKEN POX.—(J. L., Green River, Wyo., and A. B. D., Charleston, S. C.): The warts are the ulcers of chicken pox. Use carbolic vaseline twice daily. Avoid damp houses and exposure to rains.

LICE ON TURKEYS.—(J. B., Washington, Iowa): If you examine your turkeys carefully we think you will find them infested with lice.

Some Duck Questions.

Mr. Editor:—I wrote you some time ago about my ducks, asking you why they did not lay, and received a reply from you in which you advised me to go on feeding as before, and the ducks would go to laying again. You also asked me to report results.

I did go on feeding as before, and the ducks began laying again, but soon slacked up. I fed oats and corn ground together, once a day, and they had unlimited range. From eleven ducks I got about two hundred and fifty eggs; of those only about one-half were fertile, and only a small per cent of the fertile eggs hatched, a great many dying in the shell. A rat got into our brooder house and killed about forty-five ducks, leaving us only thirty-three ducklings from the eleven ducks.

I have three incubators of 100-egg size, filled with duck eggs, but we have had a good deal of hard thunder lately, and I have heard it said that thunder would kill a good many in the shell.

There are two possible reasons why the ducks did not do well in the spring. First, they were fat last fall and winter; and second, part of them were hatched rather late last year, that is in May and June. During the winter I fed oats and corn ground together, and bran, shorts and turnips for a mash in the morning. They laid quite early compared with those of my neighbors, but did not keep at it for any length of time. They would lay for a few days and then slack up for a week or so, then lay for a few days again. Now they have stopped entirely.

I am going to try the ducks again next year, and would like to ask a few more questions.

Why won't incubators that hatch an average of 80 per cent of hens' eggs, (that is of fertile eggs) do to hatch duck eggs with the same general management? When do ducks stop laying generally?

Crescent City, Ill. O. L. M.
Concerning the hatching of duck eggs, we quote from Mr. Boyer's book, "Profitable Poultry Farming":

"Duck eggs require turning, and the same general handling as hens' eggs, during the period of incubation, says Mr. Rankin, and the same amount of heat with a little more moisture after they begin to pip.

"Cooper says duck eggs are not more difficult to hatch than hen eggs, and require the same general treatment. The only point to bear in mind is that they require more air

because they are larger, and are more difficult to dry down. * * * Cool a little more than for a hen egg.

"Campbell says duck eggs and hen eggs can be hatched together; but will hatch best if by themselves."

Our experience with ducks has been mostly experimental, and we had the same difficulty with Pekin ducks in keeping the ducks laying regularly. We are inclined to think the irregular laying was due, in part, if not entirely, to the ducks being disturbed by occasionally handling one of the flock, or by persons passing through or near their yard. Of the fertility of eggs we never had reason to complain. From what we have seen of the cross of the Pekin and the common white duck, it seems that the excessive timidity of the Pekin might be much reduced by the judicious infusion of other blood. Our Pekin ducklings were perfectly fearless until it became necessary to catch some of them; after that they were wild, no matter how gently handled.

Ducks generally stop laying about July 1st.

A Case of Reversion.

Mr. Editor:—I am a reader of FARM-POULTRY, and can say I find it the most reliable paper I ever saw. I could not be without it if it cost five times as much; for, although I don't raise poultry I love to study the different opinions. Now I have a question I would like to ask your opinion on. It was in some time ago, but the circumstances are different in this case.

My brother has fifteen pure blood W. P. Rock hens, also three fine W. P. Rock roosters. He had a hen hatch day before yesterday. She brought off twelve chicks, one of which is as black as a crow. He has no other hens except these W. P. Rocks, and has no near neighbors. Now, why was one of them black? He says it is a freak of nature. He started with one cock and two hens that were prize winners; so he knows the stock is pure. Please let us know in next FARM-POULTRY what your opinion is? Also, please give us a good idea of the number of hens that can be kept in a house 10 x 30 feet, on the scratching shed plan?

Waterbury, Conn. F. E. C.
As the W. P. Rocks were originally sports from the Barred variety, and the Barred P. Rocks are a made breed with a black fowl as one of their first ancestors, it is not hard to account by reversion for a black chick occasionally in W. P. Rocks. Indeed, W. P. Rocks generally show more or less dark color in the down. In Barred P. Rocks nearly black chicks are not at all rare, particularly when very dark breeding fowls are used.

In a house of the dimensions given from sixty to one hundred hens could be kept—the number varying with the breed, the season, and the care. With W. P. Rocks, for best results and taking the year through, we think sixty would be about right. Of course in making this statement we take it for granted that the fowls are to have abundant yard room. With roomy yards, provided with shade, more fowls can be kept in a house than if the yards are small, shadeless, and the fowls must remain in the house when needing shelter by daylight as well as at night.

We Don't Do It That Way.

Mr. Editor:—I received the sample copy of your paper, and have been unable to subscribe yet. I send you above an article that I am sure will please your readers among turkey raisers, and if you will publish it just as written, correcting only mistakes in grammar, orthography, punctuation, etc., and send me some copies I will act as agent for you and use them to try to get you subscribers, and will have the article copied in our paper at the county seat, giving FARM-POULTRY credit for it.

Champlain, Va. A. S. G.
P. S. Am accustomed to writing for papers, and may send you other articles.

[Then follows a long suggestion as to illustrating the article.—ED.]

The device described by Mr. G. is of such a nature that we could publish the description only after having seen it in operation, or on the recommendation of some one known to us on whose veracity and judgment we could rely. This is not saying that Mr. G. is either untruthful or injudicious, but simply that we know nothing about him, have not the opportunity to test his "invention;" and as its utility appears to us questionable, we do not care to use his article.

Any number of such articles are sent us during a year, and consigned to the waste basket or returned to the writers. The fact that they never are heard of again confirms our judgment of their value; for a really useful thing will gradually make its way, though turned down by every poultry paper in the land.

People frequently write us asking if we

will give them a year's subscription in return for an article for the paper. To do this would cause us, and the subscribers as well, endless annoyance. We arrange in advance only for articles from contributors specially qualified to handle certain subjects—people we know will give us articles that we can use. When not nearly all of the articles offered by regular contributors, people who keep abreast of the times, know what is going on in the poultry world, and have an up-to-date interest in poultry problems—people whose contributions do not have to be re-written before going to the printer, are accepted for publication, it is easy for the reader to see how small a proportion of the articles submitted under such an arrangement would be worth a dollar to us. Nine times out of ten it would take the editor twice as long to put the writer's manuscript in shape for publication as to write an article covering the same points himself; and ninety-nine times out of a hundred the resulting article is much less acceptable to our subscribers than if written by the editor.

The publishers cannot afford to pay double the rate for articles of little value that they do for articles of great value; and that is just what the article for subscription amounts to. It is wrong in principle, as wrong as the article for advertising scheme.

We know that in these hard times the dollars are not always easy to get; but if those who want the paper and have not the cash to pay for it will examine the inducements offered to agents we think they will find it not difficult to secure their own subscription by a very little effort under an arrangement that will be equally profitable to all parties.

Teaching Chicks to Roost.

Mr. Editor:—I have a lot of W. P. Rock chickens which show no inclination to roost, and never have. They are about twelve weeks old, and large. What shall I do about them?

The last lot hatched of W. P. Rocks are not satisfactory. I got them from the same place as the others, but the eggs were all shapes and sizes. The first lot were uniform in size and large. I think the last were mainly pullet eggs. Some were long and pointed, others small almost as bantams' eggs—few large ones. Out of the two hundred there were seventy-five sickly fertile eggs of which forty hatched. In most of the unhatched eggs I found chicks partly formed. A few, only eight or ten, had died in the shell.

Now what I wish to ask, is: Do you think I can save the few I have that haven't died since hatching?

The reason I am so particular about this lot is that I wish to keep the hens for breeding, so that I won't have to buy eggs next year.

By the way, will these eggs do for next year's hatching?

Kingston, N. Y. G. L. L.

Sometimes changing the chicks from the house they have been accustomed to to one with roosts conveniently placed induces them to roost. When this fails the only plan we found effective was to put wide boards on the roosts extending clear back to the wall, and lift a part of the chickens to these every night until they learn to go themselves. When a part of the flock learns to roost the rest gradually follow suit. It is a rather tedious performance, but we know of no other way to accomplish the end sought. Our P. Rocks rarely gave us any trouble in this respect; but Brahmas and Cochins, especially the former, used to make our lives a burden about this time of the year. We have had some Asiatics from stock that had been bedded on the poultry house floor, which never could be induced to roost.

It is not likely that the hens from your last hatch will make desirable breeders next year should you succeed in raising them. Why not keep the females of the lot hatched early in April for breeders? There is no surer or quicker way to run down a flock than by breeding from late hatched immature fowls.

Leg Weakness and Lice.

Mr. Editor:—I enclose a copy of a letter sent me, hoping you will kindly advise the writer through the columns of FARM-POULTRY. Poultry keepers cannot be too thankful for your kindness in answering their questions and giving them help.

Pittsfield, Mass. C. H. A.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER.

"I will try to describe the symptoms. It seems to be a loss of power to use their legs. In the first stage a chicken seems to be as well as ever, but as it attempts to run it does not use its legs just right, but when walking it is not noticeable. The legs grow weaker slowly, till the fowl lies on its side with both legs stretched out, utterly helpless, only as it uses its

wings to flop about with. The legs do not swell or shrink. The appetite keeps good; it sometimes seems that the fowl eats more than when well, and does not stop eating till just at the last. The disease affects all ages. The chickens are free to run out of doors, except on very stormy days.

I feed wheat middlings, corn meal, bran, oat feed, or whatever chances to be in the grain box. Have fed animal meal mixed with the scalded feed, and have used Sheridan's Condition Powder in small quantity. They have by them nearly all the time cracked corn, pop corn, buckwheat, and sour milk.

Their pen is dry and clean, with plenty of chaff and coal ashes to scratch in.

We tried everything we could think of on them, bathed their legs with kerosene, witch hazel, and hot alcohol, but it did no good.

If you can shed any light on the subject we shall be greatly obliged. JAMES JONES.

The trouble is leg weakness, due to irregular feeding of an ill-balanced ration, causing general debility, with lice to hasten the end.

For the lice use a good insecticide. To overcome the leg weakness the following treatment from "Farm Poultry Doctor," will be found effective: "Remove all causes of the trouble, as pepper, corn, and corn meal. Overcrowding must be avoided. If you have been feeding any and every time you went near them, in fact, 'babying' them, change this—feeding right food at regular intervals, and at no time filling them to repletion. Give them a yard and pen by themselves to avoid picking upon by stronger birds. See to it that they have clean water and green food. Bathe the legs daily with Anodyne Liniment or tincture of arnica. Bone meal or phosphate of lime should be put in the morning mash. Boiled beans or peas will help to furnish a right diet. No better medicine can be given than quinine—one grain per bird every day, administered in pill form."

Dimensions of Exhibition Coops.

Mr. Editor:—Please publish in your next issue the proper dimensions of an exhibition coop? We are to have an exhibition in St. John this fall, and it is desired to make the poultry the leading attraction.

St. John, N. B. P. N. H.

The sizes for exhibition coops vary. It is always desirable to have the coops at an exhibition uniform in height and depth; the width may vary with the number of birds designed to be shown in the coop. The coop shown in F.-P. for Sept. 1st, 1896, makes a good one for single birds or pairs of the larger varieties, or for trios of the smaller. The dimensions of this coop are height 30 inches, depth 24 inches, width (or length) 30 inches. For pens of five birds, four feet is a good length for the small breeds, and five feet for Asiatics and large P. Rocks. It is customary for the managers of shows, where exhibitors furnish their own coops, to specify in premium lists the dimensions preferred. Exhibitors help their own exhibits as well as add to the general attractiveness of the show by building their coops to conform to these dimensions.



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Ventilation in Incubator Cellar.

Mr. Editor:—I am going to get an incubator this summer, and don't know how to ventilate my cellar. It is under the center of the house, and exposed only to the north side. On that side there is a porch under which is a small window which gives little light in the cellar. The cellar is warm and dry, but is dark and close. Do you think it would do for an incubator without ventilation?

Part of my hens were Barred Plymouth Rocks and the rest W. Wyandottes; the roosters were P. Rocks. Which roosters would be best to cross on my pullets this winter for broilers—the B. P. Rocks or the W. Leghorns? I want good layers at the same time.

J. C. E.

Your cellar will need ventilation; but we could not advise just how to arrange it, knowing so little of the possibilities. Study the matter out. In your case we would select as breeders the best P. Rock hens in the flock and breed them with thoroughbred males.

The writer has made a number of different crosses, and while many were good, in general they were less satisfactory than thoroughbreds from the same parent stocks.

Lice. Improper Feeding.

Mr. Editor:—I have B. Cochins, some six, some four, and some three weeks old. They seem to eat well and drink, but stand around and sleep, and at last die. Some old hens of the same breed are also acting the same way. I feed them (large and small) on Pettijohn one morning, bran another, and scraps from the table another. At night I give corn and wheat. They also have very loose bowels. Will you kindly tell me what is the matter, and what to do to check the bowels?

H. J. D.

East Orange, N. J.

It would appear that both old and young chickens have lice; though if the old ones were out of condition the young might be affected as described while entirely free from vermin.

It would be better to mix the Pettijohn, bran and table scraps, and feed together every morning. The bran alone lacks nutritive value; the Pettijohn alone (though we have had no experience in feeding it) probably is too concentrated a food; and the table scraps, if fed only every third day, are apt to be more or less sour at this season. Sour table scraps alone might cause the bowel trouble. Through the hot weather we would feed corn not oftener than twice a week, and then make it but one-fourth to one-fifth of the night feed, the rest being oats. The remaining days give wheat at night. For the young chicks bake a corn bread of coarse meal, and feed several times during the day. Even if the range is fairly good it will pay you to do this. Feed only what they will eat clean, but feed often. At night give the youngsters whole wheat. Give neither whole nor cracked corn while feeding the corn bread. To check the bowels, give boiled milk to drink, and if on examination you find that lice are present use a good insecticide.

Incubator Questions.

Mr. Editor:—I wish to start in the poultry business on a small scale, but am not at all proficient. My wife is used to chickens, and I am more than willing to do the work with her advice and the help of your valuable paper. Will you please answer the following questions:

1st. Am I perfectly safe in buying an incubator and brooder from the Reliable Incubator Co., Quincy, Ill.—or can I do better? Can I get as good a machine at a lower price?

2d. Which is the better, a hot water brooder or a hot air brooder—and why?

3d. When ought I to start an incubator to be reasonably sure of carrying the chicks safely through the cold weather?

4th. What is the cheapest chicken house I can afford to build—capacity from sixty to one hundred hens? I think of keeping Barred P. Rocks and Sherwoods. For a beginner would you advise these breeds for all around purposes? The Sherwoods are the sturdiest chickens I know.

J. P. P.

Hagerstown, Md.

1st. The Reliable Incubator Co. will do exactly as they agree to. You are perfectly safe in dealing with them. We can say that the same is true to the best of our knowledge and belief of every other incubator firm and every advertiser in F. P. Whether you can get as good a machine at a lower price, we cannot say. We don't know.

2d. Opinions differ. Read the manufacturers' catalogues, and see what reasons each gives in support of his system. F. P. for Sept. 1st will contain a number of special articles of great value to beginners with and intending purchasers of incubators and brooders.

3d. If you hatch healthy chicks, manage your brooder right, and give them proper

care in other respects, you can take the chicks safely through any cold weather. You should, however, begin experimenting with your incubator soon, as if that is postponed until about the time you wish to begin hatching the season's work may be lost. You cannot learn it all in a day—nor in a month or a year, for that matter—but the sooner you begin to learn the better.

4th. For a house we recommend the scratching shed house illustrated and described in our May 1st number. It can be made of any length desired. The Plymouth Rocks and Sherwoods are both good breeds. The Sherwoods have never had a wide popularity, but there have been reasons for this apart from the merit of the fowls. If you know them and like them, we would say by all means breed them.

Value of Chicks. Liver Trouble and Indigestion.

Mr. Editor:—I have some full blooded Black Minorca chickens, some seven-eighths, and some half-bloods. They are from two to three months old. I have a chance to sell a few. How much should I charge apiece for them?

I have a Black Minorca hen which eats well and looks well, but is weak in the legs. Is it liver trouble? Does liver trouble come from indigestion? I supply them plenty of grit. I also have a cockerel the same way, only his crop is rather large and hard. I had him in a small box to fatten, and he did not have much grit. I would throw some in the box once in a while. I gave them each a Parsons' Pill last night, and will give again tonight and tomorrow night.

A. R. S.

Revere, Mass.

A fair price for the grade chicks would be twenty-five per cent above their market value. This may seem a little low to some, but we would not give over that for them at the age mentioned. The thoroughbred chicks we consider worth at that age about half their estimated value at maturity.

It would hardly be correct to say that liver disease caused indigestion; as both come from want of exercise and improper feeding; they often occur together. The medical treatment is good; but to be permanently effective must be accompanied by proper hygienic treatment.

Imperfect Action of Crop.

Mr. Editor:—The first week in April, in a clutch of chickens, there was one that was very weak at birth; but while now living it is only about one-half the size of the other chickens of the same clutch. They are Brown Leghorns. There is something wrong with this chicken, and I would like to know what it is, as I am interested and have read "Farm-Poultry Doctor" through without finding anything in it that points to a similar case. The symptoms of this chicken's case are as follows: It was weak at birth. It eats well, but there is nothing in the crop but wind at all times. It cannot fly up to a roost two feet high; is shaky on the legs; is only half the size of the other chickens; and in general, while apparently healthy, don't make the progress that the other chickens do. Please advise what to do in this case, as it is a freak, and I would like to cure it if possible. Also let me know what to do with a sitting hen that gets overheated either while hatching or otherwise.

J. C. C.

Chicago, Ill.

We would not try to cure the chicken. From our point of view it is cruel to allow it to live. The trouble we can only guess at. It seems that the chick was hatched with an imperfect crop, and that because of this defect digestion is imperfect—it has not indigestion properly, but cannot digest the amount of food necessary to produce a healthy normal growth.

We do not quite understand the question about the hen. If the overheating is heat apoplexy we should treat as for apoplexy in "F. P. Doctor."

Eleventh Hour Honesty.

Mr. Editor:—Please tell me if Shoemaker's condition powder is not too strong for little chicks. I had some made up by a druggist from a receipt taken from Shoemaker's Almanac, but the chicks won't eat the soft food in which it is mixed. Will it do for old hens? I don't want to experiment with my fowls, as I have had trouble enough getting them where they are.

My last hatch of scrubs came out July 10th, and were large, healthy chicks in appearance; but appearances are oftentimes deceitful in the poultry business, as I have learned to my sorrow. They just stand around and droop and die. I don't have heat in the brooder, as it is warm enough without it. I have an idea the eggs are affected from the hens, as the man who sold me the eggs told me the hens had lice, and had had them for some time, and that he hadn't been able to raise any chicks this year. He did not tell me this until last night after I had purchased my second sitting of eggs from him, which I set this A. M. I got ninety-nine chicks out of two hundred eggs—five cripples. They are dying at the rate of four or five, or more a day.

G. L. L.

Kingston, N. Y.

We know nothing of the condition powder

you mention. If the chicks will not eat the food which contains it there must be something in it distasteful to them. If it tasted right they would not hesitate because of the strength. A chick has a strong stomach.

It was not well done in you to set the eggs after your experience with the first lot, and after having learned; what you did you should have insisted on the man taking them back; and in any case you ought not to have set them; you are throwing away the eggs, your time, the cost of running the incubator, and of food for what chicks hatch until they struggle out of the world—as under the circumstances you can hardly expect to raise any. The man from whom you bought the eggs is to be commended for as much as eleventh hour honesty deserves, and you will know better than to buy from him in future.

About Poultry Houses. Plymouth Rocks or Langshans.

Mr. Editor:—I am contemplating building a chicken house, that is, a roosting and laying apartment combined, for the accommodation of say one hundred laying hens and two hundred broilers, etc., and would be very greatly favored if you can kindly give me any pointers in reference to same, such as to size, arrangement, and other suggestions that may be of service in the matter. I have been in habit of allowing my fowl to roost in trees, old sheds, etc.; but as I am going to give up the common barnyard stock and raise only of the good stock, such as Black Langshans, I will have to furnish better accommodations. Would you advise me to breed Barred Plymouth Rocks, or Black Langshans?

Natchez, Miss.

M. L. D.

Send to the publishers for the issue of FARM-POULTRY containing the article, "About Poultry Houses." You will find a list of special articles in the advertising columns. A beginner, or one looking for some special information will find it worth while to consult that list.

If your preference is for Langshans breed them by all means. The black pin feathers are against them as broilers, and in some markets the white skin is considered objectionable. You will know yourself whether in your circumstances these objections will have weight. As layers and as table fowls there is little to choose between them. Some southern breeders of long experience consider the Langshan particularly well adapted to the south.

His Own Boss.

Mr. Editor:—I have in the yard where I am living a poultry house divided into three pens 8 x 10 ft. each, with one ran 50 x 36 ft. for the three. How many head of poultry is that accommodation for? I think of getting an incubator plant of the smallest size. My reasons for getting this outfit are, first, shortness of funds; next, the limited space of my "hen hotel," and also my limited experience. Do you think I could do anything with the outfit I speak of? I intend to raise for broilers, and to get a flock started.

I have all my life until within a few years had the care of my father's hens (and roosters), but we generally had mongrels. I have never operated an incubator except the natural one, so expect to learn as I go along. Also, until I get my business going, I expect to work at my trade. I don't expect to make a fortune in a year or two; but I am getting tired of working for others, and wish to be my own master, so far as having a boss over me, I mean. Of course, I know my work will be my boss to a certain extent; but my boss will not have a chance to say, "We have no orders, and will have to lay you off"—and I think I can earn a better living than I can in the shop.

D. W. R.

Hyde Park, Mass.

There seems to be a growing demand for incubators and brooders of small capacity, and the manufacturers are endeavoring to meet this demand. As far as we know, they do not claim that these small machines will do as good work as the larger ones. What our subscriber can do with such an outfit, will depend very much on himself; he might fail with any outfit, he might fail with this and succeed with another, or vice versa.

Having house accommodations for three small flocks, it will be best to divide the yard into three each 10 x 36 feet. In such quarters as you will then have, from eight to twelve hens can be kept, according to the breed.

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BREEDERS AND MARKETMEN.

OUR REQUESTS:—We make two requests of our subscribers. One is when writing our Advertising patrons always mention FARM-POULTRY. Another is if you ask them questions, always enclose a stamp. If you observe both of these requests it will benefit you amazingly. It shows that you mean business. Remember, "Molasses will catch more flies than vinegar," and those who observe it are served first.

A BAD WICK is worse than none. Use only the Sunlight Carbon, 10 cents for sample, S. G. Robinson, printer F. P., 23 Purchase St., Boston.

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A RARE CHANCE. To make room for my young stock will sell 13 pens of choice Barred P. Rocks cheap for quality of stock. For particulars address, F. A. Quimby, East Rochester, N. H.

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WHITE WYANDOTTES, brown egg strain. All stock guarant. W. B. Eastman, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

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WHITE WYANDOTTES, large dark egg, prolific laying strain. W. E. Mack, Woodstock, Vt.

WYANDOTTES, Silver and Golden, highest awards in Boston, '96. At Peabody, '97, won 21 regular and 8 specials on 28 entries. My patrons won in Boston and Canada, Jan., '97. Stock large, open faced, farm raised, prolific—none better. All my winners of note are in my yards. A fine pen of Silvers and Golden for sale. Eggs at half price, \$1 per 13 for 2 or more sittings. John C. Jodrey, Danvers, Mass.



**The hotter the weather
The thicker are lice.**

No matter how warm it is, you can keep the fowls clean and comfortable by a liberal dusting with Lambert's Death to Lice! the more you use the better they will like it, and cheaper will be the price. A dollar spent for this powder may save you a hundred times its cost.

**The thicker the lice
The thinner the chicks.**

Some people wonder why their chicks don't fatten and grow, yet if they looked in the right place they would see lice not only worrying and making the lives of their poultry miserable, but subtracting their vitality faster than the richest hen food can supply it during the day. Mites are red in the morning on account of the chicken blood they are filled with. Body lice stay on and tickle until something is done to eradicate them.

**The thinner the chicks
The least they will grow.**

It takes a certain amount of nutriment to sustain life, and more to develop the growth—and a chick to do its very best must have everything in its favor; if allowed to get lousy it will never make so fine a bird as if kept free from these culling parasites, and

**They will doubtless get left
At your next winter's show.**

There are many things that will kill lice, yet some of them will kill the bird also. Death to Lice not only destroys vermin, but cleanses and beautifies the plumage as well. It is good to use if no lice abound; it sweetens the premises, and wards off disease. A guaranteed sample sent postpaid for 10c.; a 48-oz., 50c.; or 100-oz., \$1 by Ex. from here or nearest agency. Ointment for head lice 10 and 25c. Book mailed free.

**D. J. LAMBERT,
Applonau, R. I.**

WHITE WYANDOTTES.

A few breeding hens for sale at \$1 each. Breeding cock \$2, \$3 and \$5 each. One 40-egg hot water Reliable Incubator, latest improvements, all complete, good as new, price \$30.

**CHARLES C. RYDER,
Yarmouthport, Mass.**

Ducks are Overfed.

Mr. Editor:—I am a subscriber to FARM-POULTRY for three years, and all my success I owe to its teachings. Nearly all I want to know I find in its pages; but now I have trouble for which I have seen no remedy.

In rainy weather, or very hot weather my Pekin ducks break down; they seem to have cramps. In the former case they will recover if put in warm dry quarters; and in the latter if put in cool quarters. When once afflicted they are more readily victimized, and death follows several attacks.

I feed corn meal two parts, bran three parts; they have plenty of sand for grit, and all the water they want; drink—none to sport in. They also have plenty of shade; houses where they can go in at will; runs 12 to 15x20, and twelve to twenty-five ducklings in one.

Do you think it is all due to the conditions of the weather, or does the feed also affect them? I feed five times a day. No food is left from one meal to another with few exceptions. W. W. B. Robeson, Pa.

The trouble is due in part to the feeding and in part to the weather. Had they been properly fed, however, it is reasonable to suppose that neither the dampness nor the heat would have had such serious effects. The food is too concentrated for ducks, and is given too often. Add cut clover, equal in bulk to the bran used, to the mash, and feed only three times daily. Between the mash men's give all the cabbage leaves, coarse lettuce or similar green stuff they will eat. On such diet as this we have had ducks grow rapidly and remain in good condition through the hottest of seasons—when it was so hot, in fact, that they could not remain in the sun for more than a few minutes at a time throughout the middle of the day.

The Chicks are Weak.

Mr. Editor:—I would like a remedy for my little chicks. I had a hen hatch fifteen little chicks. They seemed to do well till they were a week old, then they commenced dying away till none of them were left. At first they were dry and stand around, so I thought they had the d. I dusted the nest with Lambert's powder and put a little grease on their heads and under their wings, but it did no good. They were dirty in the back. I fed them bread soaked and squeezed dry, and oatmeal dampened with water, but it never stopped till the whole flock were dead. They would get so weak they would lay on their sides until they died. Sometimes they would get up only to fall down again. My second flock has it now. The hen has only two left out of twelve, and one of them is all dirty in the back and its wings droop. Please give me a remedy. All the first ones hatched are doing fine. It is only the last ones that are wrong. St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. A. T. W.

The condition of these late broods of chicks is likely due to weakened condition of the breeding stock and to extreme heat. Chicks with hens will suffer just as much with the thermometer close to 100 degrees in the shade as brooder chicks will in an overheated brooder.

Wants Spending Money.

Mr. Editor:—1st. Would gravel with a couple of inches of sand on top make a good floor?
2d. How many points would a clipped wing take off the score of a Black Minorca pullet?
3d. I am going to put a small advertisement in your paper, advertising Lt. Brahmas and S. C. B. Leghorns, as I will have enough eggs to supply customers. What do you think would be a good price for my eggs? My Leghorns are from Mr. Kulp, and my Brahmas from a man who has bred them for a good while. I am only eleven years old, but I want to have some spending money. PHILIP BOYER.

1st. Put about twice as much sand on the floor. Make it four or five inches deep.

2d. That would depend on the condition of the wing and on the judge. It might depend, too, on the condition of the judge. We once saw a judge, who had a bad toothache, "cut the life out" of all the birds he judged in an entire afternoon. As a rule we believe clipped wings are rarely cut less than one-half or more than one and one-half points.

3d. Try and find in your town some good friend who understands poultry and knows what your stock is worth. Go to him for advice, not only as to prices, but on other matters that will come up if you sell eggs. We doubt whether there is a poultryman to be found who would not gladly help in this way a boy like you. You are too young to do even a small business while depending entirely on your own judgment; but with such help as you could get in this way, might do very nicely.

Sure Death to Skunks.

Mr. Editor:—Skunks will, as a rule, eat an egg in preference to anything else. Whenever they are annoying, take an egg or eggs, make a small hole in the egg, then turn out some of the white and put in some strychnine

and seal up the egg with a small piece of paper. Mark the egg so that you will not get it in with the others, put it where the skunk comes, and you will get him every time.

Laceyville, Pa. W. E. SHOEMAKER.

The Best Paint.

What is the Best Paint? This is the question the thrifty house owner is constantly asking. Paint is not very expensive when you get the best, but the labor of applying it is costly. What, then, is the best paint for wear?

What shall be combined with pure linseed oil to make the Best Paint? The experience of many centuries points to pure white lead. This substance has the faculty of mixing most readily with linseed oil. It assists the oil to dry by combining with it, the oil is rendered waterproof, and the resulting dry film for a long time remains elastic, so that it adapts itself readily to expansion and contraction of the surface, without a tendency to scale off.

There are additional reasons why pure white lead is the best pigment. Among others, it has greater opacity than any other substance, therefore hiding the surface better; consequently fewer coats are required. Therefore, when you can cover as well with two coats of white lead paint as with three or four coats of other paint, it follows that the lead paint is the cheapest by far.

Within the last fifteen or twenty-five years a large demand has been created for what are known as Ready Mixed Paints, or paint prepared with oil and dryer ready for use, which appeals to the user as a great convenience, some makes of these appear to give fair satisfaction, but the very general complaint as to their want of durability has caused the whole class to fall somewhat into disrepute. The cause for this is not hard to find. We have previously shown that the base of the best paint for general use should be pure white lead and pure linseed oil. Now white lead in its nature is so heavy an article, so dense are its particles (it is this that gives it its great value as a covering pigment) that it cannot be held in suspension for any length of time in pure linseed oil. As a matter of fact, most ready mixed paints contain but little white lead, other and cheaper substances, inferior as pigments, being substituted therefor. It is not difficult, then, to see why such paints so often prove disappointing to the user; nor does the expense stop here, because if he desires to repaint with a pure article and secure the best results the old coats must first be entirely removed.

The moral of all this is, the best is the cheapest in the long run. Anyone desiring to use paint can buy absolutely Pure White Lead, under the guaranty of a responsible manufacturer, Pure Linseed Oil, equally guaranteed, and pure Colors, and can mix them himself ready to use at a no greater cost per gallon than inferior articles, which do not cover nearly so much or so well.

Why, then, not always buy the best, the very best? J. A. S.

Green Bone Cutters Offered Free as Premiums.

That pioneer poultry paper of the country, the *American Poultry Journal*, of Chicago, Ill., recognizing the needs of poultrymen, publishes in August issue a premium offer of Green Bone Cutters. The principal Green Bone Cutters of the country of different sizes and price, are offered as premiums for subscriptions, and include Mann's, New Premier, Dandy, Ideal, Daisy and Crown, Webster & Hannum, Archemedian, and Standard. Send for free sample copy of *American Poultry Journal* for full information how to get a Bone Cutter free.

MINORCAS. BLACK AND WHITE.

At Utica, N. Y., in strong competition, my birds won four first, five second, three third, five fourth prizes. J. W. DOUD, Turin, N. Y.



MENTION
PAPER.

"DANDY"
GREEN BONE CUTTER
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IGNORANCE in regard to paint materials or painting would seem in this age to be inexcusable, when full information can be had free. If interested, it will pay to get pamphlet and color cards, also twelve pictures of houses painted in different shades or combinations of colors, free. Send your address.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS only will be printed under this heading; no advertisement admitted containing less than TWO lines; no display other than the initial word or name allowed; no limit to length of ad.; an advertiser can divide his copy and put the matter under as many headings as he wishes; all space used except classified headline, to be charged at a uniform price of 25 cents per line each and every insertion; no less price per line for any number of lines or times inserted; copy will be changed often as desired; about seven ordinary words will make a line; all parts of lines charged as one full line; the headlines will be arranged alphabetically, as in a "business directory."

BREEDING STOCK.

1776 FARM, Warner, N. H. Breeds viz. B. P. Rks., L. Brahms, C. I. Games, P. Ducks, W. W. Ys. BLACK Minorcas and S. C. B. Leghorns, large vigorous, winners of many prizes. Best strains in the world. Few good cockerels \$2 to \$4. Eggs, \$2 per lb. E. Bertram Pike, Pike Station, N. H.
L. T. BRAH, W. P. Rocks, pick winning. Eggs in season. Stock, F. C. Brown, Quebec, Vt.
BRONZE TURKEYS, Pekin ducks and fine healthy Belgian hares for sale. Stock good and prices reasonable. Address John Walker Farm, Box 21, Lovell, Oxford Co., Me.
YOUR CHANCE to buy cheap, Wyandottes, Gold, Silver, Buff, White, this year's breeders, fast maturing young stock; many exhibition birds among them. Also some grand Rock cockerels, blue barred, Blue Andalusians, sars winners for the coming fall and winter shows. Violet Wyandottes. Write to Sylvan Grove Poultry Farm, Bernardston, Mass.

NOW is your time to buy choice early hatched young and yearling stock cheap. Great laying strains, W. and B. P. Rocks and W. Wyandottes. Geo. S. Bowen, Eastford, Ct.

STOCK CHEAP. Going to move. R. P. Rocks, B. Minorcas and B. C. Bantams, young or old. L. G. Andrus, Elyria, Ohio.

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CLOVER, cut ready for use, \$2 per 100 lbs. Woodlud Farm, Station V., Philadelphia, Pa.

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7000 PEKIN Ducks, hatched this season. Fine breeders, \$1 each. Guaranteed to equal any found. W. H. Fordham, Spoonk, L. I.
PEKIN DUCKS for sale, Rankin and Newman stock, \$1.50 ea. F. O. Price, Bridgewater, Mass.

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TO GET EGGS feed Buckwheat. We offer it 75c. per 100 lbs. Rupert & Sons, Seneca, N. Y.

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SEND for Cat. of the famous Olentangy Incubators and Brooders. Geo. S. Singer, Cardington, O.
INCUBATOR regulation perfected. Send for illustrated catalogue. A. H. Burr, Omaha, Neb.
THE PERFECTED Incubators. Cash, installment, or rental. The Perfected regulator fits any incubator. 4 cts. in stamps for circular. H. D. Moulton, Taunton, Mass.

FOR SALE. Incubible Incubator, 20-egg capacity, good running order, price \$8. Address J. E. Welch, 336 N. St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
600-EGG Monarch Incub. used one season, price low. Jas. B. Pickett, Wenham Depot, Mass.

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SINGLE COMB Brown Leghorns, Forsyth strain. A nice lot of youngsters for sale, price reasonable. F. E. Boyce, Bacon Hill, N. Y.

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BLACK MINORCAS exclusively. Cornell, Northrup, Santee & Cunningham, Northrup str's crosses. Eggs \$1.50 per B. R. Store, 187 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

300 Min's at bargain, 26 eggs for price of 13 now. Catalogue. G. H. Northrup, Racineville, N. Y.
ROYAL strain Black Minorcas win for my customers in the strongest competition at the greatest American shows. F. H. Hood, Dryden, N. Y.

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RAISE Belgian Hares for market. More profit than cows. Arthur W. Kick, Forestgrove Pa.
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100 White Scotch Fantails. Large, even, flat tails. Fine style and action. Grand breeding and exhibition birds that are right in quality and price. E. A. Hollbrook, Winchester, Mass.

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WHITE P. Rocks. Will sell fine yearling stock cheap. Write for prices. Eggs, 15 \$1; 50 \$2.50; 100 \$3. Wm. F. Hinds, DeRuyter, N. Y.

W. P. ROCKS yearling stock for sale. Hawkins str. \$1.50 ea. F. O. Price, Bridgewater, Mass.
BARBAND W. P. Rocks, last year's breeders, also fine lot young stock. Prices reasonable for quality. Cannot be excelled, seldom equaled. Write me your wants. Satisfaction. Evergreen P. Yds., B. C. Craig, Red-Buck on Hudson, N. Y.

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SOFT Shell Eggs. Streeter's remedy. To introduce trial bottle 10c. D. A. Streeter, Waterbury, Ct.

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SPECIAL PRICES on poultry supplies. Send for catalogue. A. A. St. Germain, Kankakee, Ill.
I SELL LEE'S Lice Killer 2 qts. 50c.; 1 gal. 75c.; 5 gallon cans \$3. Geo. W. Swett, West Hollis, Me.

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WANTED poultryman who thoroughly understands broilers. Full par. Lister, London Bridge, Va.
WANTED a young African Gander, R. I. Red cockerels cheap. E. S. Piper, Camden, Me.

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WHITE Wyandottes exclusively, early layers brown eggs, fowls bred for eggs and poultry. Eggs \$1 per B; for incub. \$3 per 100. Stock in season. Sat. evening. A. M. Jerauld, No. 1, Aliboro, Mass.

1776 FARM, Warner, N. H. W. W. Ys. B. P. Rks., L. Brahms, C. I. Games unexcelled. WHITE Wyandottes and Pekin ducks. 600 early farm raised chicks and a few yearlings. Geo. R. Schaubert, Ballston Lake, N. Y.

WHITE WYANDOTTES for sale, Fell strain, 30 yearling hens and breeding cock birds. If you want good stock up to date at reasonable prices write. A. Holmes, Cuyler, N. Y.

W. W. Fine stock, cheap. Rockland Poultry Farm, G. A. Ed. Reynolds, Marlboro, Mass.

THE POULTRY ARCHITECT. This book illustrates for poultry houses, coops, roosts, nest boxes, and other necessities for the poultry yard, with practical information on their construction. Price 25 cents.
EGG RECORD simple, practical, and easily kept book of the kind; for one or ten yards. Price 25 cents. Incubators and Brooders. How to make them. 25c. H. A. KUINS, Box 400 C, Atlanta, Ga.

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everywhere to sell Lice Killer and Poultry Remedies. You can make big money. Territory given. Send for free book at once. T. D. C. STUBBS CO., Bradshaw, Nebr.

WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Only 25 of those breeding hens left. Hunter strain, \$1.50 each; breeding cocks \$2 and \$3 each; 200 cockerels for sale after Sept. 1st, \$3 to \$4; also 100 pullets, \$1.50 to \$2 each. J. H. SWIFT, Satick, Mass.

BUFFINTON AND HIS BUFFS.

Buff Wyandottes, Buff and Barred Plymouth Rocks, Buff and White Leghorns, Buff Cochins, Rhode Island Reds, White Wonders and Indian Runner Ducks. Also Golden Sebright, Rose Comb Buff, White, Black and Buff Cochins Bantams. Anything wanted; write and see what we can do for you.

ROWLAND G. BUFFINTON, Box 477, Fall River, Mass.

CUT CLOVER, 50 lbs. \$1; 100 lbs. \$1.75. Crushed Oyster Shells, \$7.50; and Mica Crystal Grit, \$7 per ton. CLEVELAND POULTRY CO., Pittsburgh, N. Y.

Well Done!

Mr. Editor:—We, like many others, have been struck with the incubator craze, and last May we built one with a capacity of one hundred and ten eggs, heated by hot air, and regulated by a thermostat and regulator. The thermostat we bought of L. R. Oakes, and made the regulator ourselves.

Last June we put one hundred and nine eggs in it; we followed the usual directions concerning moisture, and kept the heat at 103 degrees till hatching time, when we run it at 104 degrees.

We tested the eggs the seventh day, and again on the sixteenth day, removing in all eighteen eggs, and leaving ninety-one in the machine.

Well, the chicks commenced to hatch on the nineteenth day, and were all hatched by the evening of the twentieth day, hatching in all seventy-three chicks, or eighty per cent of all fertile eggs. They were W. Leghorns, and we sold them all as soon as we took them from the incubator.

We have read so many experiences in the columns of FARM-POULTRY we thought we would give ours.

We are breeding Buff Plymouth Rocks. We have some fine Buff cockerels which we shall advertise in the columns of FARM-POULTRY this fall.

FORD BROS.

Oak Hill, N. Y.

For the Boys, (and Their Parents).

Mr. Editor:—Previous to the time I subscribed for your paper I had been keeping mongrel fowls; but I soon became convinced by some of the writings in your paper that thoroughbred poultry are the most profitable. So I purchased four S. C. B. Leghorn pullets and a cockerel, and started in to see what I could do. The pullets laid from the 17th of January up to the present time on an average of about 2½ eggs a day, during which time I fed them according to the directions in your paper. I sold thirteen sittings of eggs at 50 cents a sitting, making a total of \$6.50, besides what eggs I used myself for incubation. Soon after I bought the Leghorns I bought a trio of Dark Brahmas from a breeder in Illinois, which also laid very well under the same conditions as the Leghorns. I now have thirty-nine Brahma chicks and twenty Leghorns. My coop has one thickness of rough boards and one of matched lumber, and tar paper in between; and then an air space and paper and moulded lumber on the inside. It consists of two pens 7 x 9 feet. I made the coop myself evenings after school, and Saturdays, although I am only fifteen years old.

Oconto, Wis.

H. K.

[How much better it is for a boy to use his spare time in that way—to turn it to account—than to spend it all idly, or in expensive amusements. With a few hens in the back yard any bright boy in his early teens can make his own spending money; and the great advantage of the plan is that boys who learn in a practical way thus early in life something of the value of money and the difficulties of money getting are not nearly so apt to acquire spendthrift habits as those whose only resource is the parental pocket book.—ED.]

More Corn.

Mr. Editor:—In the article published in June 15th FARM-POULTRY, Mr. Cushman touches heavily on the "whole corn" question, which I think is a question that previous to this has not had the right kind of consideration. I think that if fed right corn is of great value to fowls. My experience has been in favor of feeding corn liberally, for the following reasons:

I have raised hens for some years past, and although I have no trouble in getting a large quantity of eggs, especially in the winter, I find my eggs will not hatch well although running as high as 94 per cent fertile. Now I have bought eggs from fowls fed nearly exclusively on corn, and with incubators have no trouble in hatching as high as two hundred and twenty-six eggs out of three hundred set (this includes test out eggs), and the chicks are strong. Again, why are the Long Island duck raisers feeding "whole corn" to their laying stock as a night feed? They say because their eggs hatch better. I have been raising ducks for the last few years, and feed entirely soft food, with the result of as high as 92 per cent fertile eggs in the season, but cannot get over a 40 per cent hatch. I have bought duck

eggs from what I know were corn fed flocks, and have had no trouble in getting from 70 to 85 per cent hatches. I think the corn question could stand a good amount of wringing up by some of the people in the business who have had some experience on the subject. All books on the question of duck feeding advocate only soft food. Please air the subject in your paper.

C. RICHMOND.

Princes Bay, N. Y.

[The corn question has been repeatedly aired in FARM-POULTRY. It causes some surprise that any of the readers of this paper should think it had been neglected, and above all that any should think, as some do, that FARM-POULTRY's attitude to "corn" (personified) is hostile. Their mistake no doubt arises from the fact that in advising correspondents what to do to right the wrong condition of their fowls, it has been necessary to insist that they discontinue, for the time at least, the feeding of corn. Corn being the cheapest food to be had over a very large area, it is fed exclusively to numerous flocks of fowls. An exclusive diet of any kind of grain is bad; and if other grains were as cheap as corn it would without doubt be necessary to condemn (?) them more often than it is now. Read the article on "The Corn Question," in F.-P. for Dec. 15th, 1896. Notice what Mr. Boyer there says about disease in the "whole corn" section of the country. Look over the "Answers to Correspondents," and mark how many people are feeding corn wrong. Then consider that not one in twenty of the queries received where the trouble is due to corn is printed, and you may gain some idea of the pressing need of correct information on the corn question, and see to some extent why it is that the impression grows on those who have to answer all these questions, that many people are with feeding corn as some are with using intoxicants, unable to do it in moderation—and their only safety is in letting it alone altogether. The amount of corn or corn meal that can be advantageously fed will depend also largely on the feeder. A careful person who watches his fowls closely, rotates the foods properly, and feeds a variety daily, can feed quite heavily of corn foods without injurious, and even with beneficial results, where careless feeding of the same quantity of corn food would do serious damage.

Is this correspondent sure that the only difference between his stock and that the eggs from which have given him better hatches is in the corn in the diet? I believe it is a mistake not to feed ducks whole grain, but might it not be that the fertility would be the same if wheat or some other grain were fed? My breeding ducks were fed wheat and corn in about equal parts at night—sometimes wheat alone—and hatches were remarkably good.—J. H. R.]

Where Do You Buy Supplies?

Is it where you can do better than with Fred G. Orr & Co., at Nos. 5 and 6 Commercial Wharf, Boston? If it is you are in luck. They keep a full line of all kinds of poultry supplies, and make a specialty of food best suited to growing chickens. Everything they sell is warranted as to quality, and their prices are right. Look up their ad. in this paper, then drop them a postal for their terms and prices. They are good men to deal with.

Absence of Plagues Due to the Advancement of Science.

In 1490 B. C. a plague destroyed 624,000 Israelites in the Wilderness. A plague in London in 1625 destroyed 36,000 people. In the years 1635–36 there was a plague mortality of 14,000, and from 1663 to 1665 it is stated that there were in the same town 70,000 to 80,000 deaths.

In civilized countries at present those outbreaks of disease are practically unknown on account of the advancement of medical and chemical knowledge; but there is no doubt that the present death rates could be largely diminished, and the general health of the community greatly improved by further sanitary precautions, especially in the homes, and the judicious use of some approved non-poisonous disinfectant, such as the "Sanitas" preparations, to which we take pleasure in calling the notice of our readers, and would advise them to write to the "Sanitas" Co., 636 West 55th Street, New York City, for a copy of their useful work, "How to Disinfect."

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ON

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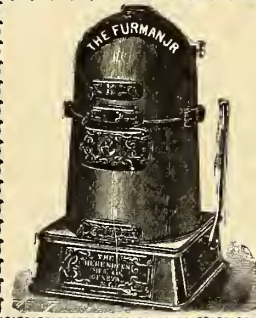
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SAFE, SUBSTANTIAL, SIMPLE and GREAT COAL SAVERS.

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America's Business Hen.

Acknowledged everywhere the world's greatest laying strain of Single Comb White Leghorns, and also unsurpassed for style, beauty, and general true characteristics of the breed. The largest plant in America devoted exclusively to this breed. I am now offering eggs from the choicest matings, selected with great care from over 2000 of my best bred birds, and at prices that are very low, quality of stock considered. Eggs for hatching, \$2 per 15; \$3.75 per 30; \$5 per 45; \$10 per 100. Large illustrated and descriptive circular free.

C. H. WYCKOFF, Tompkins Co., Groton, N. Y.



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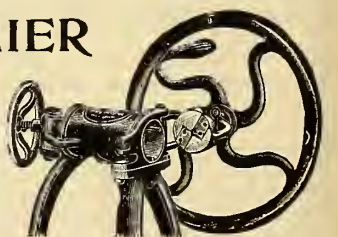
Ha! Ha! Ha! No Mites or Lice on Us! Will destroy Lice on House Plants; Free Chickens, Birds and Nests from Lice, Mites and Vermin; Rid the House of Moths and Fleas, and are invaluable to use in Dog Kennels, and a sure exterminator of Cockroaches. Try them! They are Lasting and Cheap! Write or apply to JOSEPH BRECK & SONS, Sole Agents for the New England States, Boston, Mass.

THE NEW PREMIER

THE WORLD'S GREATEST GREEN BONE CUTTER.

Self Cleaning, Rapid Cut and Easy Enough for a Child to Use.

P. A. WEBSTER, Cazenovia, N. Y.



RELIABLE INCUBATOR AND BROODER

Need We Say More?

All about them in Book on Incubation and Poultry. Sent for 10 cents.

RELIABLE INCUBATOR & BROODER CO., QUINCY, ILLS.

Thirty-two Eggs in Thirty-three Consecutive Days.

Mr. Editor:— Having noticed the many egg records in your valuable paper, I would be pleased, if your space will permit, to give you the egg record of a pair of White Wyandottes. I have never noticed any published by you that equaled the pair, or at least one of them. No. 1 began laying June 4th, and has laid every day up to date (July 6th), excepting June 10th—making thirty-two eggs in thirty-three days.

No. 2 began June 10th; has laid every day excepting June 29th and 30th, and July 4th and 5th, making twenty-three eggs in twenty-seven days. No. 1 is about to become broody; No. 2 is still laying. This pair I purchased about the middle of February while laying or I would have forwarded you a record of their winter laying.

M. O. P.

Philadelphia, Pa.

[In nearly every pen of good layers there are probably some whose records, if kept separately, would equal or surpass those given. Thirty-two eggs in thirty-three days is good laying—though it must be borne in mind that the hen had taken a rest beforehand, and was going broody after laying thirty-two eggs. We once had a Buff Cochon hen in a coop by herself lay twenty-six eggs in thirty days in January, and two Houdan pullets lay thirteen and fourteen eggs a week for over two months. We did not keep their daily record, but placed a sitting of their eggs under a hen every Saturday evening through April, May, and the early part of June. There were few weeks in that time that both pullets did not lay every day; but they had not laid at all during the winter, and laid just fairly well during the summer and fall. A Barred P. Rock pullet, that we knew of, laid sixty-eight eggs in seventy-two days, while another pullet from the same stock and of the same brood did not lay a single egg in that time.

The most remarkable laying we ever heard of was done by a pen of Brown Leghorns. Their owner averred that he gathered six eggs per day from six hens for a period of time not exactly known, but extending much over a year. He was a professional man of good education, and one whose statement of fact would generally be trustworthy.—Ed.]

Some Plymouth Rock Questions.

Mr. Editor:— Noting that everybody in the poultry business seems to have considerable trouble, that they all appear to aim at making your life miserable by perplexing questions and problems, and that under all the stress you manage to keep good natured, I therefore take the liberty of testing your cardinal virtues still further.

I am a lover and breeder of B. P. Rocks, and have spent considerable money in gaining mighty little experience. Last spring I sent to several first class breeders of B. P. Rocks for eggs, and now am placed in a perplexing position. From one of the hatchers I have got what I consider a very high class cockerel; of course am taking into consideration that 'tis yet early in the season, and seeing that 'tis such a very good specimen, most likely the horse or cow will step on it, or any of the great number of possibilities may happen which would rid me of both my perplexity and the cockerel.

The point I am getting at is, what style of female B. P. Rocks should I mate him to? He is magnificently barred, and in color is about what is required in exhibition pullets—therefore rather dark for a cockerel; but his barring is clear cut and regular.

When he comes to maturity he may show defects which would considerably alter my opinion of him; still, as it stands, what style of pullet or hen should he be mated to?

Have read up all the articles published by you, and also some in other papers, but can't find a place for this cockerel outside of exhibition; and as I am not the breeder of him, don't much care to put him before the public.

Am out this time for information, and need lots of it; have paid for lots of experience, but it comes slow even then, and you can undoubtedly supply information which will be of service to many of your readers as well as to your humble servant.

I note that the primaries of the pullets hatched from eastern eggs are smudgy—that is, the barring is not clear, and in most instances runs together. It is the same with

some pullets I bought last year from a prominent breeder. Now is that what should be? The primaries are barred, but not at all distinctly; the Standard gives, "plumage same as male," and the primaries in my cockerel's are well barred, each bar being distinct, but considerably wider than in other parts of the plumage.

This special mating necessary to bring B. P. Rocks to standard requirements, makes it very hard for small breeders to get together one pen of birds fit to show; but if special mating is not resorted to B. P. Rocks rapidly deteriorate in appearance to very ordinary fowl; whereas the exhibition bird is a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

By the bye, concerning the general contour and symmetry of this breed of fowl, there seems to be a great diversity of opinion; your cover out of cock and hen shows a style of fowl which should be the ideal fowl, as do also several advertisement cuts of the prominent breeders; one cut especially suited me, and that was "one of Latham's pullets." Another party whose name I forget, had a photograph of a cockerel in your paper, and that kind of gave me considerable consolation, for it looked very much like the P. R. cockerels I am raising, and very unlike the ideal cock depicted in your frontispiece. However, presume that your cut shows the ideal, and if attained must be a magnificent fowl. Sewell's pictures of B. P. Rocks are very fine from an ideal of what such fowl should be, or what we would like them to be, but the actual birds are twice as long in the neck as the pictures depict them. Shall be more than obliged if you favor me with an answer on mating that dark cockerel, and also as to the primaries in pullets; such information would be well received by many amateur breeders of the stalwart breed of B. P. Rocks.

Yours very truly,

Sioux City, Ia.

M. W. BALDWIN.

[You say you can find no place for your cockerel outside of exhibition. We asked Mr. Bright what he would do with such a bird, and he replied, "Mate him to the very darkest clearly barred hen I had. Such a bird is valuable."

Referring to FARM-POULTRY for Feb. 1, 1896, we find Mr. E. B. Thompson advises a standard male mated to medium to medium dark females for exhibition cockerels; and Mr. Hawkins gives practically the same advice. We think it will be found, that, as the pullets mature the barring in the primaries will become more sharply defined. Our experience has been that where pullets were well barred on primaries at an early age the barring was too wide and gave them a faded look as they grew older.—Ed.]

Experience in poultry culture does not come in a week, a month, or a year, but with years of patient toil, experiment and observations. It is a trade, or, rather, a profession, and he who is ambitious to stand at the head of the class must study his lesson daily, and put in practice what he has learned, instead of taking hold of the theories of others. Self-culture and self-confidence are two valuable auxiliaries in poultry culture.—*Fanciers' Review*.

Mr. Bright Makes a Change.

Not in his poultry business, however.

Messrs. Wm. Ellery Bright and Harold C. Sears have formed a copartnership under the firm name of Bright, Sears & Co., for the transaction of a general banking and brokerage business, giving especial attention to the execution of orders on the Boston Stock Exchange. Mr. Bright has been an active member of the above Exchange since 1886. Mr. Sears has been associated for ten years with the well known banking firm of F. R. Cordley & Co.

Bright, Sears & Co. execute orders on all stock exchanges, collect dividends and coupons, receive deposit accounts subject to check, allow interest on daily balances, and give prompt, careful and confidential attention to all business entrusted to their care.

The business prestige of the members of the new firm assures its standing, and the many readers of FARM-POULTRY who have found it a pleasure to do business with Mr. Bright in the past will find it most satisfactory to transact their business of this class through his firm.

DOCTORS HAD GIVEN HER UP.

A Convincing Letter From One of Mrs. Pinkham's Admirers.

No woman can look fresh and fair who is suffering from displacement of the womb. It is ridiculous to suppose that such a difficulty can be cured by an artificial support like a pessary.

Artificial supports make matters worse, for they take away all the chance of the ligaments recovering their vigor and tone. Use strengthens; the ligaments have a work to do.

If they grow flabby and refuse to hold the womb in place, there is but one remedy, and that is to strengthen their fibres and draw the cords back into their normal condition, thus righting the position of the womb.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is designed especially for this purpose, and, taken in connection with her Sanative Wash, applied locally, will tone up the uterine system, strengthening the cords or ligaments which hold up the womb.

Any woman who suspects that she has this trouble—and she will know it by a dragging weight in the lower abdomen, irritability of the bladder and rectum, great fatigue in walking, and leucorrhoea—should promptly commence the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. If the case is stubborn, write to Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass., stating freely all symptoms. You will receive a prompt letter of advice free of charge. All letters are read and answered by women only. The following letter relates to an unusually severe case of displacement of the womb, which was cured by the Pinkham remedies. Surely it is convincing:

"Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Blood Purifier cured me when the doctors had given me up. I had spent hundreds of dollars searching for a cure, but found little or no relief until I began the Pinkham remedies.

I had falling and displacement of the womb so badly that for two years I could not walk across the floor. I also had profuse menstruation, kidney, liver, and stomach trouble. The doctors said my case was hopeless. I had taken only four bottles of the Vegetable Compound and one of the Blood Purifier when I felt like a new person. I am now cured, much to the surprise of my friends, for they all gave me up to die. Now many of my lady friends are using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound through my recommendation, and are regaining health. It has also cured my little son of kidney trouble. I would advise every suffering woman in the land to write to Mrs. Pinkham for aid."—Mrs. EMMA PANGBORN, Alanson, Mich.



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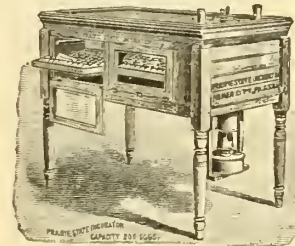
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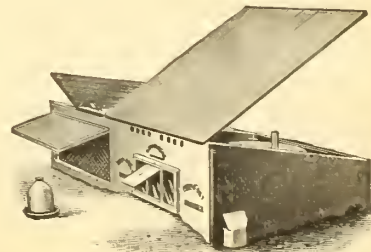
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E. F. HODGSON,

Dover, Mass.



20 used by editor of this paper.

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Fowl Hits.

Over the Long Distance 'Phone.

[A One-Act Farce].

Written for FARM-POULTRY.

"Hello! F-P."

"Hello! Who is this?"

"It's me."

"You should say: It is I."

"Come off! Pardon the slang, but—"

"Ah! The R. P. J., is it not?"

"Yes, it's me."

"You should say: It is I."

"What's the use of quibbling over words? Between you and me, F-P., all these different forms of pronouns only cause confusion. There's no need of more than two."

"Which two?"

"Me and we; me to use when speaking of me alone; we when speaking of me and other people; other people don't count without me."

"Indeed!—Well, great and good friend, what can I do for you?"

"Nothing. No one can do anything for me."

"H'm! Is it as bad as that?"

"Sir: your insinuations—But you are excusable. It is not necessary that anything should be done for me. I need nothing."

"Me need nothing, you mean."

"I mean what I say."

"Oh! Do you? Always?"

"Always—at the time I say it."

"Well, great and good friend, if I can do nothing for you, why did you ring me up?"

"A matter of importance. I have long known that I possessed great oratorical ability—"

"Really! How did you manage to keep the secret?"

"—and I have just discovered that I am a poet."

"You have my sympathy. To tell you the truth, I have feared something like this ever since the day, less than three and a half years ago, when you 'bulged with hope' and were 'on fire with brash enthusiasm.' When those affections take that form they invariably have a bad effect on the system; sooner or later something worse is sure to manifest itself. And so you are a poet? Poor fellow! Poor, poor fellow! If you had but heeded my advice and used the remedies I prescribed you would never have come to this."

"You needn't worry about me. I'm all right."

"Mental hallucinations, too! Terrible, terrible!"

"I have composed a lullaby."

"All by yourself? (I suppose I'll have to humor him a little)."

"All by myself; and I'm going to repeat it to you."

"Excuse me!!!"

"Now don't rush off,—F-P. I have noted with pain your attitude toward certain small poultry papers."

"Well?"

"You make a mistake. What's the use of ripping them up the back and raising an uproar every time one of them squeals? You keep everything in a ferment. Now if you'll only let them alone; keep still, and let me sing this lullaby to them I can put them all to sleep in a good humor."

"What, all?"

"Yes; all."

"What all?"

"Yes; all."

"What—"

"Well, nearly all. I think we may say all but S. P. J."

"Why not S. P. J.?"

"Because the miserable little wretch won't listen to me."

"I begin to think well of him. So you want me to listen to your lullaby?"

"Yes; and to keep still and let me use it."

"Do you sing it, or recite it?"

"Both."

"I'm waiting."

[Sings to "Old Hundred."] "There's a paper at the Hub, Papy mine; That has given you many a rub, Papy mine; But you must not heed its flings, Listen while R. P. J. sings, Listen while R. P. J. sings, Papy mine."

"What makes you sing it to Old Hundred?"

"Was that true Old Hundred?"

"Yes; Er—that is, it's more like Old Hundred than anything else."

"Sure it is a great disgrace, Papy mine, That it gives such writings space, Papy mine: For it says the meanest things, Satire through its columns rings, Satire through its columns rings, Papy mine, Now why don't you go to sleep, Papy mine? For your wailing makes me creep, Papy mine. Never mind F-M-P-Y's flings, Listen while R. P. J. sings, Listen while R. P. J. sings, Papy mine."

"Here they should begin to get drowsy."

"I should think they would."

"And I begin to recite in my most gurgling tones: 'We bespeak from the fraternity as' (I say that word very low), liberal patronage for the new poultry paper, your near-by paper, as is consistent with your means and good business judgment."

"I didn't quite catch that last, I think. Seems to me it rather nullifies what you say first."

"That's the intention. Saves their feelings and my conscience, and while they're wondering what it means I begin to sing again:

'Hush little Papy, don't you cry, You'll be a Journal, by and by.'

"Confound it; some one's calling me. Hold the 'phone. I'll be back in two jerks of a lamb's tail, more or less." (Pause).

"Puff, puff, puff; all out of breath. Didn't think I'd be gone so long. Fellow kicking about the scores in some of our ads."

"What are you going to do about it?"

"Let him kick until I get time to go and inspect the stock. Where was I? Oh, yes:

'Hush little Papy, don't you cry, You'll be a Journal, by and by, (In a horn!)

"There's an even hundred verses of that. Every one is a gem of beauty, and all just alike. That 'in a horn,' repeated very softly after each verse, has the most soothing effect. Oh, I score a hundred as a poet. A man who don't score me that isn't a judge of poetry."

"Now here is the gem of the whole piece. Talk about oratory being a lost art! Not while R. P. J. is on this footstool! 'Instead of undertaking the impossible, unjust and ungenerous task of choking off aspiring efforts in the field of poultry journalism, let us be quick to welcome merit, though it be modest, and it may be well for us to tend to our own knitting lest one of these bright, free days, some of us who now seem to have an attack of the marble heart may be found playing second fiddle to the Goosetown Honker, from Webfoot, Oklahoma, or some other despised but struggling contemporary."

"For the weak the struggle is hard enough without having dirt wantonly kicked in one's face by the strong. The chief business of all the vast machinery of modern government should be simply THE KEEPING OPEN OF THE DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY IN ORDER THAT MERIT MAY HAVE A FAIR FIELD."

"What do you mean by that?"

"I mean to put them to sleep. I'm almost persuaded that may have some effect on S. P. —There's another call. I wonder what's wanted now! I'll be back in just a minute."

*** Another poor devil went crazy trying to read the criticisms on typical shape. He's the eleventh in four months. His family are threatening to sue me for damages."

"That will be unpleasant for you."

"Not at all. We contested one case, and the judge threw it out of court; said the man must have been insane before or he never would have kept on reading after the fourteenth or fifteenth."

"I've often wondered how you managed about having that matter set up and the proofs read."

"We have to handle it very carefully. The copy is distributed in the smallest possible installments to as many compositors as can be induced to take it. When it comes to proof reading, there are nine of us in the office, and we read it paragraph about. Even then we hardly ever finish at one sitting. I tell you 'tis the greatest puzzle of the age."

"Have you finished that lullaby?"

"Not quite. I wind up the recitation with a big, wide, sweeping gesture. 'Give them all the show in the world—(softly) at least all that each and every one of them deserves (louder). The poultry paper grave yard will even then be a sad enough place,' (very, very softly), until I set up my local editions as monuments to the dead papers,

"Oh hush a bye, Papy, down on bed rock, Should you go broke F-M-P-Y would mock, Don't worry for me, though, I won't feel the shock, Oh hush a bye, Papy, down on bed rock."

"That's all. What's that you're singing?"

"I was just humming Old Hundred, and repeating the words:

"Seesaw, seesaw, seesaw, seesaw."

"What were you doing that for?"

"Couldn't help it. Say, what's this I hear about the judging at the Illinois State show? Someone tells me that they are going to cross the comparison and score card systems?"

"Sure!"

"One of your great two horse acts?"

"You bet!"

"I can suggest an improvement."

"Impossible; that can't be improved on!"

"Can't it though; what's the matter with using regulation scale of points for shape, and the I. D. S. C. A. scale for color?"

"Great heavens! I never thought of that! Perhaps there's time to do it yet. I'll call the committee together at once. Good day!"

"Wait! One moment!"

"What is it? My time is valuable. Governor's ghost! how did that score-card scheme escape me? What do you want? Be quick."

"I composed a poem while you were called away."

"Pooh! The idea of your composing a poem!"

"Of course, it lacks the finish and polish of your productions; but I can assure you 'tis very expressive."

"Well, fire away! I really can't spare the time to listen to your stuff; but I owe you something for that suggestion about the scoring."

"This is properly a song, and is to be sung to the air, 'Robin Adair.'

"What makes a Standard fowl

Dear unto me?

'Tis that for which I howl,

Beant-ility!

Everything else I waive,

This, this alone I crave,

Oh, 'tis of this I rave,

Beant-ility!

"Some breed for feathers fine;

Some breed for meat;

Toward both I do incline,

In union sweet,

I'm sure a fudge can say

How well a hen will lay,

Or what a cock will weigh;

Seeing its feet.

"John sez a Standard bird

Ain't thoroughbred,

I say I never heard

Such nonsense said,

Unless you think with me,

You are not part of me,

And therefore cannot be

Right in your head.

"High over all I rate,

Beant-ility!

Strongly I advocate

Beant-ility!

Yet when I find that I

Am lonely in my cry,

Then, then I'll say, good-bye,

Beant-ility!"

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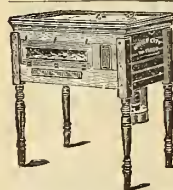
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